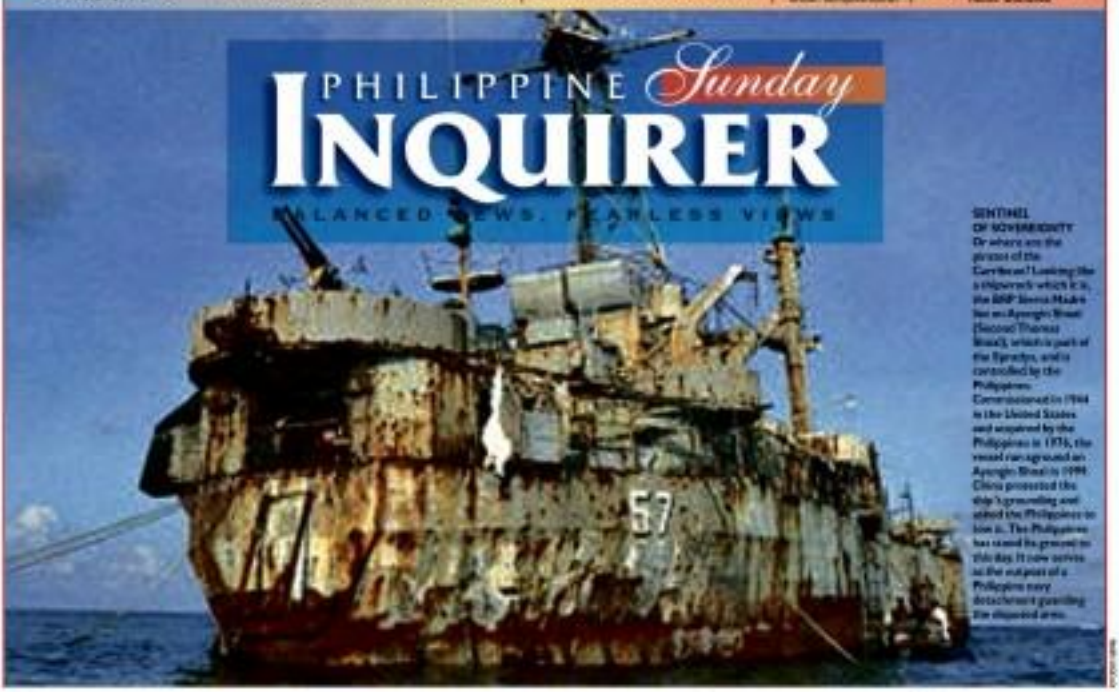
Sunday, July 1, 2012 ★★ 12 sections / Vol. 27 / No. 203 P20 | Mobile Alerts: Text INQ DN BREAKING to 4407 | www.inquirer.net Twitter: @inquirerdotnet

PHILIPPINE Sunday INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS



SENTINEL OF SOVEREIGNTY Or where are the graves of the Carribean? Looking like a shipwreck which it is, the BRP Sierra Madre has an Ayungin Shoal (Second Thomas Shoal), which is part of the Spratlys, and is controlled by the Philippines. Commissioned in 1944 in the United States and acquired by the Philippines in 1976, the vessel ran aground on Ayungin Shoal in 1999. China protested the ship's grounding and asked the Philippines to tow it. The Philippines has stood its ground to this day. It now serves as the outpost of a Philippine navy detachment guarding the disputed area.

'We have to defend it...'

Shipwreck serves as PH outpost in Spratlys

By Daria Agnote
Special Assignment

IT IS A pitiful sight. But it stands as the sentinel of Philippine sovereignty in that part of the Spratly archipelago. "This is our territory. We have to defend it no matter what," a 48-year-old soldier said.

The sentinel is a wrecked and rusty tanker dating from World War II that serves as the Philippine military's outpost in a disputed area in the West Philippine Sea (South China Sea), much proof that despite the bravado of the Filipino soldier, the country lacks the military muscle to contest competing territorial claims.

But cocoa almost every nook and cranny of the unconventional quarters used by Philippine soldiers deployed to Second Thomas Shoal, known locally as Ayungin Shoal.

"Staying on the ship puts us at risk of asbestos exposure," said one of the sol-

WE HAVE | A/8

A TALE OF TWO CAYS. A Filipino naval serviceman stands on the beach of Northeast Cay, known as Parola Island. However, it does not live up to its name. It has no lighthouse like the Vietnam-occupied (at right) Southwest Cay with a lighthouse which has been turned into a naval training center and looks like a city by night.

It started in Baler: Angara's 'highest honor' as 1st Asian, non-Spanish speaker royal academy member

By Tarra Quismundo

ONE HUNDRED-FOURTEEN years ago, Spanish military doctor Rogelio Vigil de Quiñones and 32 other soldiers held fort at Baler Church in Aurora, making the last stand for their flag as the Americans came and took over the Philippines.

More than a century later, the medical officer's grandson, Jose Rizlan, the Philippines' honorary consul to Seville, has become a yearly visitor to his former stronghold, returning not as a conqueror but as a friend commemorating renewed ties between Spain and the Philippines.

The ties are poised to grow stronger as Spain opened yet another avenue of exchange with the Philippines, inducting a Filipino into its prestigious Real Academia Hispano Americana de Ciencias, Artes Y Letras (Raha) or the Hispano-American Royal Academy of Science, Arts and Letters.

The century-old Royal Academy in

IT STARTED | A/8

Thinking out of the box makes Ramon Ang tick

By Dustin L. Lacza

IN THE GMA aftermath of Tropical Storm "Sendong" late last year, San Miguel Corp. (SMC) made the single biggest donation to local corporate history, handing over P500 million to Gawad Kalinga and Habitat for Humanity for the building of 5,000 homes in the Cagayan de Oro-Iligan City corridor for the families whose homes were swept away by rampaging floods.

A few months later, however, SMC president Ramon Ang continued to

THINKING | A/11

Lion of stage, movies named Mario O'Hara; 66

By Gilbb Cadiz

CALL Sun a one-man entertainment conglomerate. When he died at San Juan de Dios Hospital in Pasay City on June 25—a victim of leukemia at 66 (not 68 as earlier reported; he was born on April 20, 1946)—Mario O'Hara had become one of the great, if obviously underappreciated, creative

(HON) A/11

Stop logging; DENR execs fired

By TJ Burgonio

"HOW COME there's still logging?"

An exasperated Environment Secretary Ramon Paje said yesterday as he relieved 11 officials of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in eastern and southern Mindanao due to their alleged failure to curb illegal logging more than a year after President Aquino imposed a log ban nationwide.

On Friday, authorities seized some P16 million worth of "lost logs" purportedly shipped from Davao at Pier 16 to the Manila

STOP | A/8

Surprise: Tarsiers found outside Bohol

By Kristine L. Alave

NEWLY BORN tarsiers were found in a small patch of secondary forest on Mt. Matutinao in South Cotabato giving conservationists hope that there are more of the endangered species in the area that is threatened by logging, farming and mining.

Conservation group Endangered Species In-

SURPRISE | A/11

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WHAT'S INSIDE

BIRD CALLS Great Crested Terns ("Sterna bergii") appear exultant over their cache of eggs at Tabbataba's Bird Islet. Aside from these terns, five other seabird species breed on the islet: Brown Boobies, Brown Noddies, Sooty Terns, Red-footed Boobies and Black Noddies. (Story in SIM.)

NEWS • Tom Cruise, Katie Holmes split • Syrian groups say 190 dead in bloodiest 24 hrs **LIFESTYLE** • The P500-M 'Birkin scam' or how a woman's obsession led to crime • Purported HR Ocampo works to undergo tests **ENTERTAINMENT** • Sweethearts hide affair from gay benefactor • Jessica Sanchez talks to Our Man in Hollywood **SIM** • The life and times of Mommy D(earest) • The redemption of 'Manong' Johnny

WEATHER FORECAST

TODAY: Mostly cloudy with rain occasional rain while the rest of Luzon and Visayas will have mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshower and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to cloudy with isolated rainshowers or thunderstorms.

Metro Manila	Occasional Rain	Iloilo/Bacolod	Partly Cloudy
Baguio	Occasional Rain	Davao	Partly Cloudy
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	Cebu	Partly Cloudy
Laoag	Occasional Rain	Tacloban	Mostly Cloudy
Legazpi	Occasional Rain	Cotabato	Mostly Cloudy
Puerto Princesa	Partly Cloudy	Zamboanga	Partly Cloudy
Virac	Partly Cloudy	Cagayan de Oro	Mostly Cloudy
Catarman	Occasional Rain	Surigao	Mostly Cloudy

Courtesy of the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA)

Second FRONTPAGE

6/29 4D
6 9
30 24
31 9

SUERTRESS
7 0 7
2 5 0
3 6 7

SIX DIGIT (Pcso est.)
9 2 4 4 5 6
6/30 ULTRA 6/49
3 4 29 31 37 39
P3,188,118.40
6/28 GRANDLOTTO
11 16 24 25 26 52
P141,420,196.80

LOTTO: TAYO Two-DM LOTTO, result to 6/45 PCSO.gov.ph

Much needs to be done, admits Palace

By Norman Bordadora

MALACAÑANG sees the people's positive attitude toward government as President Aquino's biggest achievement in his first two years in office, but acknowledges that many problems remain and could well be the biggest obstacle for the administration.

And while more needs to be accomplished in the remaining three years of his presidency, Mr. Aquino is not by any means considering steps for his term to be extended beyond 2016, according to deputy presidential spokesperson Abigail Valte.

"The greatest setback could be that we still have more to do. There's still much to be done. The President is very conscious of the need to push that he has been given—six years, no more, no less. And that's what we're looking at," Valte told reporters in Malacañang.

"There is so much to be done, yet too little time. We are trying to see what actions will have maximum impact in the four years that the President has left," she said.

But Valte was emphatic that the President would not consider a term extension.

"No, no! The President is aware that it's six years. As I said earlier, no more, no less," she said.

Asked what scenario is he done, Valte said: "Remember the goal is not just to boost corruption or to take it out completely but to make reforms systemic. It cannot be that reforms would only be for six years, and then for the next, they would change for the better."

"We want to make the change as systemic as possible. Now we can see that we are part of the open government project. Our budget is very transparent. We now see where the people's money is being spent," she said.

Valte said the reforms have to be so widespread and well-entrenched that they couldn't be just set aside after the end of the Aquino administration.

Change in mind-set

"What is the biggest achievement so far? It's the change in the mind-set of our people. The people are more open to the reforms being pursued by the government," she said.

"Our countrymen are now more engaged or not online but we are already see this in several levels of engagement which shows that there is now a shift in attitude towards governments as a partner and not as an opponent," she added.

The President marked his second year as Chief Executive yesterday. He assumed office on June 30, 2010, after winning a landslide victory in the 2010 presidential elections.

Aquit Jones an official Malacañang statement on the second anniversary no other public activities were held out to mark the milestone.

Once significant moves, however, was a full Cabinet meeting that 4th Aquino called on Friday to discuss with his officials the proposed 1,000 billion national budget for 2011.

Valte was almost euphoric that the meeting that reportedly started at 1:30 p.m. lasted past 8 p.m.

"There two years have been marked by genuine, meaningful change—in the way government is run, in the way our country is viewed by the international community, and in the way we aspire and view our own futures," Valte said in a prepared statement on the anniversary.

"The longer is the Filipino mired in partisan and despair; he has seen the seemingly difficult tasks achieved, and is one with the government in creating a society that is truly just, prosperous and equitably progressive," she said.

However, progressive groups yesterday said child labor and the situation of the youth grew worse during the first two years of the Aquino administration.

5.5-million child workers

From the 2.4 million child laborers in April 2010, the number has grown to 5.5 million today said the group Bata pero Bata group.

This was proof of the administration's failure to root out poverty and incompetence in providing social services to Filipino children, group Bata said.

Kabataan, the national organization of young workers and professionals, peasants, out-of-school and community youth said measures, dominated 4th Aquino for the "business-as-usual" of the youth and people under his watch.

"Aquino and his personnel in Malacañang should be dismissed as outdoing but delusional. They parrotize and portray reality differently from ordinary Filipinos. Poverty, hunger and unemployment continue to rise even as the economy has 'grown,'" said Kabataan national chair Vencer Crisostomo. (Full report from INQ.com)

Coach Spo gives P-Noy championship souvenir

By Norman Bordadora

FILAM coach Erik Spoelstra of the NBA champion Miami Heat has sent President Aquino a souvenir—a championship ring that he signed wishing the Philippine leader all the best.

Accordingly to Assistant Secretary Hyzon Mirill of the Presidential Communications Operations Office, Spoelstra sent the black and gray cap through 4th CDPO. "El Mariscal who owned the recent NBA Finals for the Philippine country.

"To Pinoy, Best wishes! Coach Spo," read Spoelstra's autograph on the cap visor.

The President received the cap on Friday on the eve of the second anniversary of his presidency.

Spoelstra entered a superstar-laden Miami Heat squad in the NBA championship over the Oklahoma City Thunder last month.

Meanwhile, earlier congratulated the coach after his team, led by superstars LeBron James, Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh, beat the Thunder in four games.

"Congratulations to Coach Erik Spoelstra. We do not want to make rules but special members and a very big congratulations to Coach Erik Spoelstra," Mirle said.

"That would be good," Valte said when told of Spoelstra's promise to bring the Heat's championship trophy to the Philippines on a visit. "Coach Erik Spoelstra has a lot of time here in the Philippines. A lot of fans would be excited."

Spoelstra's mother Fe Calimbahin from San Pablo, Laguna.

He met Mr. Aquino in August 2011 after his team lost in the NBA Finals to the Dallas Mavericks that year. The duo was in connection with the league's international physical fitness campaign.

Spoelstra said then it was an honor to meet Mr. Aquino.

"This is a time in addition opportunity to meet the President," Spoelstra was quoted as saying.

Loren moves up to Koko's UNA slot, but her party is in talks with LP

By Christian V. Esguerra

WILL now mate's loss be a mate's gain?

Maybe not, but for senatorial it's worth, but. Loren Legarda is poised to take the top slot on the United Nationalist Alliance's senatorial slate, replacing Sen. Aquilino "Koko" Pimentel III who quit the coalition on Thursday.

Legarda is going up from the No. 2 spot, even if she is not a member of either of the two political parties that coalesced to form UNA, former President Joseph Estrada said yesterday.

"She will become No. 1," Estrada told the lawyers in a phone interview.

Asked why as "caretaker" should be the leading candidate of UNA, Estrada said, "But she will not run under any other party."

Legarda is a member of the Nacionalista People's Coalition (NPC), which is officially in not part of UNA. The coalition consists of Estrada's Partido ng Masang Pilipino (PMP) and Vice President Jejomar Binay's Partido Demokratikong Pilipino-Lakas ng Bayan (PDP-Laban).

"Thank you for that," Legarda texted when informed of UNA's decision to endorse her to No. 1 senatorial candidate.

She said she had been invited both by Estrada and Binay to join the UNA ticket.

"I welcome the invitation to be a guest candidate," Legarda said. "I think they will confer them an announcement in due time. But it is not to replace anyone because the invitation was made last year."

Legarda ranked second to fellow environmentalist Sen. Francis Escudero in the most recent Pulse Asia survey of leading senatorial candidates. Escudero got 61.1 percent, while Legarda received 60.6 percent.

Legarda was already on the UNA list even before Pimentel decided to leave the coalition because of the initiation of former Bukidnon Rep. Juan Miguel Zubiri in the group's senatorial slate.

Pimentel said his ouster from the UNA senatorial ticket as a member of the 12th slot in the 2007 senatorial elections. As a result, Pimentel missed four years of his six-year term.

UNA leaders had made it seemed the top candidates on the coalition's senatorial ticket as a symbolic gesture intended partly to convince him to stay and maybe the hatchet with Zubiri.

The impasse has loomed that the NPC is talking with President Aquino's Liberal Party and the latter could lend its both Legarda's and Escudero's becoming official candidates of the administration party.

Like Legarda, Escudero is being considered for the UNA senatorial ticket, but friends said he can head yet to secure a commitment from Escudero.

Escudero says he could be considered an independent, but would be open to running as a guest candidate of some parties.

Legarda said she would meet with the NPC this week to learn from the party on which ticket she should run.

It remains to be seen how Legarda's or Escudero's inclusion on the LP slate would affect their standing with UNA. Estrada said yesterday that part of the PMP and the PDP-Laban's "covenant" was not to accept guest candidates.

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'Gov't not doing enough to punish rights abusers'

By TJ Burgonio

A NEW Web-based human rights watchdog yesterday said Philippine government efforts at prosecuting extrajudicial, rights violations were not enough, with most cases failing to reach the final stage.

Human Rights Watch (HRW) said that while the conviction of human rights abusers depended on the courts, the lack of successful prosecutions "highlights broader problems that rest with the administration."

Elaine Pearson, deputy director for HRW's Asia Division, observed that the police still failed to follow up and arrest suspects, and the military continued to "obstruct" investigations.

"Even in the case against retired Army Maj. Gen. Jovito Palparan, whom we praised the administration for bringing charges, sufficient enough is being done to bring him to justice so that he can receive a fair trial," Pearson said.

The fugitive retired general had been charged with the 2006 abduction and illegal detention of students Karen Empeño and Sherlyn Cadapan.

HRW earlier said that President Aquino had failed to prosecute a single case of extrajudicial killing and enforced disappearance in his two years in office.

The new dispatch by deputy presidential spokesperson Abigail Valte, who said the administration had instructed the filing of cases against suspects but had to say over their conviction, he Palparan's case, she said, charges have been filed and a murder warrant "has been issued for him.

Addressing 'barriers'

"Conviction isn't part of the executive branch's job," she said.

Pearson said she President could do a lot more to "systematically address" the barriers to successful prosecutions.

For starters, she said, Mr. Aquino should order the National Bureau of Investigation to probe police and military personnel implicated in killings. He should order the police to redouble efforts to investigate abuses involving government officials, she added.

The President should also order the military to cooperate with civilian authorities investigating military abuses, or face sanctions, she said. Additionally, he should take immediate steps to ensure that the witness protection program is independent, accessible and properly funded, she said.

Mr. President Aquino himself pointed out, last week, that crusade to the conviction of those implicated in abuses is the true test of his commitment to his promise," Pearson said.

Cops admit massacre suspects hard to find

By DJ Yap and Julie M. Aurelio

THE PHILIPPINE National Police (PNP) has admitted having a tough time hunting down 101 suspects in the 2009 Maguindanao massacre who remain at large, in the wake of reports of witnesses and their relatives being killed one after another.

PNP spokesperson Senior Supt. Dionardo Carlos Jr. said the difficulty lay in hunting the fugitives given the vast province of Maguindanao.

"There are inconsistencies areas and deeply-rooted areas," Carlos told a briefing on Friday.

The police state challenge, he said, was that the suspects may be being protected by their clans and supporters, making it difficult for the police to enter places where the authorities were seen as the enemy.

The police have apprehended 96 of the 197 accused, including several members of the Ampatuan clan led by patriarch Andal Ampatuan Jr. and his sons, who are on trial for their alleged roles in the killing of 57 persons on Nov. 23, 2009, in Ampatuan town in Maguindanao.

The body of the reported 58th victim, photojournalist Reynaldo Momay, has not been recovered.

Carlos said he believed it was only a matter of time before the last straight up will will all the accused.

The official stated that the "big boss" in the Ampatuan clan, or the principals in the case, were already behind bars.

Carlos said the PNP was prepared to offer security to witnesses to the massacre, following reports of the killings. Six people—three witnesses and three relatives of other witnesses—have been killed in connection with the case.

Meanwhile, one of the accused in the mass murders who is due to be released to a guardian on grounds that he was a minor during the massacre is now claiming that he was of legal age then.

58 when it happened

Jerald werfhan officer Anthony Quitaquin, who had been tasked by a Quezon City court trying the Maguindanao massacre case to conduct a study on the accused, said he "consistently" claimed that he was 16 years old when the alleged incident/offense happened."

Quitaquin has asked Quezon City Regional Trial Court Judge Jocelyn Solis-Reyes for a denial age exam to be done on the accused to determine the true age to settle the matter.

Quitaquin wrote the letter to comply with the court's order in February that a case study be conducted on the accused, who had stayed for a while at the Marine Youth Home in Quezon City which takes in children in conflict with the law.

The accused, allegedly a millionaire, was brought to the youth home on Feb. 9 as ordered by the court.

But he insisted on returning to the Quezon City Jail Annex in Camp Bagong Diwa, Taguig City, where he used to be detained with the other accused.

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Highest Pagcor income short P65M

By Leila B. Salaverria

THE COMMISSION on Audit (COA) in its 2011 audit report has cited the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp. (Pagcor) for its record-breaking P56.029 billion income in 2011, an higher P11 years.

But the COA also found that Pagcor was underpaid by P65.04 million in 2010 and 2011 because of the erroneous computation of rent from ejudet operators at Ely... on Cuenca Filipina. A junket operator brings in foreign players to the casino.

In the report, the COA asked Pagcor to collect the amount from Resorts ... Holiday Philippines Inc. (PHI).

It said the rent due Pagcor should be 35 percent of gross winnings from the foreign area for a particular month. But instead, the rental fee it collected was based on net/win loss or gross winnings minus the non-negotiable chips, commissions and incentives, contrary to the memorandum of agreement between Pagcor and PHI. The resulted in a rental deficiency of P65.04 million.

The rental fee to be paid by PHI was computed by Hyatt Accounting, the COA noted. PHI submits daily win/loss results to Hyatt Casino Filipino. Hyatt Accounting summarizes the reports at the end of each month and determines the rental fee that the junket operator must pay.

But the COA also said that in May, during a meeting between Pagcor, PHI and COA, there was an agreement that PHI would pay the rental fee based on gross winnings effective September 2011, and the rental fee from April 2010 to August 2011 based on net win/loss. It added that it had agreed to this scheme on the condition that the computation of rent from April 2010 to August 2011 would be subject to approval by a COA cluster.

Despite the P65 million rental income deficiency, COA lauded Pagcor for its P56.029 billion record income last year.

"We commend management for their concerted efforts in achieving record-breaking gross income for CY 2011, and for constituting fiscal responsibility," the COA said.

It said Pagcor's 2011 performance also boosted the agency's contribution of funds for socio-civic activities, subsidies to national government agencies, taxes and mandated contributions for other agencies.

The COA also said Pagcor's exercise of fiscal responsibility was underscored by its request to the COA to restore the preaudit of its transactions.

But COA Chair Grace Tan, who scrapped the preaudit practice in 2011, told Pagcor that she was inclined to maintain a preaudit on the gaming firm. Instead, Tan encouraged it to continue with ongoing reforms to strengthen its internal control system.

Such a strong system would help Pagcor achieve effective fiscal administration without the need for COA involvement in a preaudit, she said.

Church bucks gaming plans of foreigners

By Philip C. Tubeza

THE CATHOLIC Church is opposed to the plans of the Philippine and Macao gaming interests to set up a $5 billion casino complex in Manila, the head of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) said on Friday.

CBCP president Lobo Archbishop Jose Palma said the church will oppose the project because of the scant ills it would cause and its "undue impact on the poor."

"People are spending money believing that it could eradicate poverty or that gambling, through luck, could free them from poverty," said Palma in a report on the CBCP news website.

"That's why, in general, we try to discourage all forms of gambling in our country. It's a game of chance. We should rather teach Filipinos to work hard," he said.

Australian billionaire James Packer and Macao gaming baron Lawrence Ho, the son of casino mogul Stanley Ho, were reportedly in talks with the company of Townsend Ecumlen and the Philippines' richest man, Henry Sy, to set up a $5 billion casino in the country.

Ateneo, UP, La Salle among top English-teaching schools

By Tarra Quismundo

THREE Philippine universities were rated among the world's top 50 English-teaching universities in a new survey by London-based research and ratings firm Quacquarelli Symonds (QS).

In a statement, QS said the Philippines' "spectacular strength" in the English language was reflected by the inclusion of its universities among the highest ranking 24% in English language and literature. The University of the Philippines ranked 32, while De La Salle University ranked 44th.

World-renowned universities in the United Kingdom and the United States took the top five spots in this order: Cambridge, Harvard, Oxford, Yale and University of California-Berkeley.

"The spectacular strengths of Philippine universities in the English language and literature are closely shown in these rankings. The country should be proud of their achievements," Ben Sowter, QS research chief said in the statement sent to the business.

English is widely used in the Philippines in business, government, media, pop culture and daily life, with the language included in basic education.

Proficiency in the language is also known to have helped the country become a top location for international business process outsourcing (BPO) firms looking to hire qualified nonnative English-speakers.

The Philippines rated as well in case citation discipline, with 105 citing scholarly work per 1,000 faculties in Geography.

QS ranked schools in 29 subjects "based on academic reputation, employer reputation and citations per paper," the firm said.

The ranking, the "largest of its kind to date," ranked some 600 universities in 27 countries, with scoring based on some 50,000 responses from employers, and members of the academia, QS said.

Congratulations!

National Mapping and Resource Information Authority Celebrates 25th Anniversary

NAMRIA's significant contributions to innovative projects for the nation's benefit: —

- Preparation and successful defense of the country's submission to the United Nations for an extended continental shelf in the Benham Rise Region
- With the support of the Japan International Cooperation Agency, updating of the topographic base maps of the whole of Mindanao for use in various development planning activities in the area
- Formulation of the Unified Mapping Program to provide updated large-scale maps of the country for detailed thematic mapping
- Establishment of the Philippine Geoportal which will pave the way for the web-based integration and sharing of our base maps and thematic datasets produced by government agencies and other organizations
- Mapping of low-lying areas to delineate the extent of coastal areas vulnerable to flooding, for various scenarios of sea-level rise due to climate change and other causes
- Establishment of the Philippine Active Geodetic Network or PhilGrid, the country's new geodetic positioning infrastructure
- Extensive multibeam hydrographic surveys of the exclusive economic zone and continental shelf

DR. PETER M. RAMOS, CESO I
NAMRIA Administrator

New storm nears PH

By TJ Burgonio

A LOW pressure area (LPA) was spotted over the Pacific Ocean 1,200 kilometers east of Mindanao on Saturday morning and is forecast to enter the Philippine area of responsibility (PAR) this morning.

The LPA will spawn scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms over most of Visayas and eastern Mindanao tonight, weather forecaster Aldczar Aurelio said yesterday.

"The state will be moderate to heavy. Residents there should be alert for landslides and flashfloods," he said by phone.

But until this morning, the southwest monsoon will bring occasional rains over the western section of Central and southern Luzon, the Philippine Atmospheric Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (Pagasa) said.

Metro Manila will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to mostly cloudy with isolated rainshowers or thunderstorms, Pagasa said.

The PAR is the designated area in the northwestern Pacific Ocean where the Philippine weather bureau monitors storms that develop within its territory.

Meanwhile, the so-called "leap second" was added to the world's atomic clocks at midnight last night to keep in sync with the slowing rotation of the earth. The extra second is one of the arbitrary points by which the world sets its watches.

According to reports, the minute clocks will read 23 hours, 59 minutes and 60 seconds before moving on to midnight Greenwich Mean Time.

"We add the leap second because of the difference between the international atomic time and solar time. The rotation of the earth should be synchronized with the atomic clock. The atomic clock is more stable while the earth's rotation changes," Louie de la Cruz, chief of Pagasa's Space Sciences and Astronomy Section, said.

DOH Health Advisory

Leptospirosis

Sanhi: Mikrobyong "Leptospira"

Paano nakukuha:

- Sa pamamagitan ng pagpasok ng mikrobyo sa balat na may sugat mula sa tubig-baha, basang lupa o anumang bagay na kontaminado ng ihi ng daga na nagtataglay ng mikrobiyo na sanhi ng leptospirosis.

Mga Palatandaan:

- Lagnat
- Panginginig ng katawan o "chills"
- Pananakit ng binti, kalamnan, at kasukasuan
- Pamumula ng mga mata sa ibang pasyente
- Pamimilaw ng balat
- Kulay tsa-a na ihi
- Kakaunti ang inihi
- Sobrang pananakit ng ulo

Pag-iwas at Pagsugpo:

- Iwasang lumusong o lumangoy sa baha at maruming tubig
- Gumamit ng bota kung hindi maiiwasang lumusong sa baha at maruming tubig
- Sugpuin ang mga daga sa bahay
- Panatilihing malinis ang buong bahay

Kung may lagnat na ng 2 araw, lalo na kung lumusong sa baha, agad na komunsulta sa pinakamalapit na Health Center upang masiguro ang iyong kaligtasan.

Palace lauds Carpio; Chavez says he's 'too late the hero'

By Herman Bordadora and Philip C. Tubeza

MALACAÑANG yesterday welcomed acting Chief Justice Antonio Carpio's acceptance of his nomination for Chief Justice, saying that Carpio is "a good legal mind."

But for former Solicitor General Francisco Chavez, Carpio is "too late the hero."

According to Chavez, Carpio has been sitting in the Supreme Court for 11 years, but has "not contributed to the realization of the reforms" he is proposing now.

Ricky Carandang, head of the Presidential Communications Development and Strategic Planning Office, said Justice Carpio has every right to be considered for the post and we support that."

Justice Carpio is also a great legal mind," Carandang added in his text message to the Inquirer.

Carpio is qualified to become Chief Justice, he said, "but there's a diverse list of nominees and a number of them would certainly be qualified."

Undying figure

Chavez, also a nominee for Chief Justice, said that when the Supreme Court finally sends a n "undying figure" from outside who can heal the "infighting" on the court that has become personal" and has "impaired" the institution.

He said Carpio could have introduced changes even if he was only an associate justice on the court.

"Eleven years wasted. One does not have to be Chief Justice to provide the necessary integrity within the judicial system," Chavez said. "Each justice of the Supreme Court is a firebrand and a beneficiary of the constitutional reforms."

Said it is not in if it is a Filipino speak of persons that when one reaches the highest point of possibility of becoming Chief Justice, one is able to drum up all of these reforms," he said.

Dreams are free

"But of course, there is nothing wrong with dreaming of becoming Chief Justice. Dreams are free. There is no law against it," Chavez added.

He pointed that no one had formally nominated Carpio, although, as the most senior associate justice in the Supreme Court, he is nationally recognized to be Chief Justice.

"I would rather that the next Chief Justice come from outside," Chavez said. "It would [have] provide the opportunity to heal the wounds of the institution. It would also be a number to the infighting within the court."

The impeachment of Chief Justice Renato Corona, Chavez said, sowed division on the Supreme Court, with Corona himself accusing Carpio of plotting his ouster.

"Appointing an insider I would only reinforce and prolong the infighting," Chavez said. "The next Chief Justice should be a unifying figure, not an aggravating circumstance," he said.

The division on the Supreme Court should only be "in terms of honest intellectual discussions of cases," Chavez said. "But the disputes has already gone beyond that into the issue of the personal. You have to respect Constitution."

Whiff of fresh air

He said that appointing to outsider would also "usher in a whiff of fresh air from a person who I assume she assumes her office has hand to take his oath will initially say 'Thank you' to the President but then as the same breath will also declare his unconditionality, why to the Constitution and have over and above everything and everyone else."

"As for me, I look at the 40 of a justice of the Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court and more to the Chief Justice is our frustrating on social retardation and I am a highly social animal," Chavez said.

"Frankly, I do not want to become the drayman of my life," he said.

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DAR vows no dummies on list of Luisita tillers

By TJ Burgonio

TELLALIO fears that the list of beneficiaries of Hacienda Luisita will be padded with "dummies of the Cojuangco clan," Agrarian Reform Secretary Virgilio de los Reyes yesterday promised the farmers full transparency in the verification and distribution processes.

De los Reyes said a preliminary list of land reform beneficiaries of the huge sugar plantation owned by relatives of President Aquino will be made public and the farmers could question the inclusion or exclusion of any name there.

He also said that "all the proceedings in the identification, screening and validation of potential beneficiaries" were open to the public "in the interest of transparency."

De los Reyes said the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) would be ready to post the list of beneficiaries by the second week of August or sometime in September.

"From the preliminary master list will be made available to the public so that interested parties, particularly farmers' groups and civil society groups, may scrutinize the list," he said in a statement.

He said in an earlier interview that the list would be posted on majorities in the estate's barangays.

According to the DAR's Management Information System, some 6,462 farmworkers had been interviewed and screened as of June 29.

"Interviewing is no guarantee all of them are getting lots," he said.

Members of the militant Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas held a vigil on Chino Roces Bridge near Mabalacat last Thursday to press for the release of the original list of farmworkers.

They alleged that the DAR's "questionable verification process" was part of the Cojuangcos' scheme to limit the number of beneficiaries, slash the size of the land for distribution, sow confusion among the farmers, and put their dummies on the list.

The DAR kicked off the process with an information campaign in Luisita's 19 barangays on May 28 soon after receiving the final decision of the Supreme Court ordering the distribution of the remaining 4,500 hectares of the plantation to 6,296 farmers.

De los Reyes said the preliminary master list would still be subjected to an inclusion-exclusion process, in which the farmers may appeal to be included or request the exclusion of other workers.

He admitted that this stage could be the most controversial since potential beneficiaries could be stricken off the list.

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Katie Holmes divorces Tom Cruise

LOS ANGELES—Hollywood couple Tom Cruise and Katie Holmes announced Friday they were calling it quits after five years of marriage, ending an onoff romance story dogged by tabloid rumors.

Cruise, 50, and Holmes, 33, are divorced, according to their attorneys representing Holmes. "Katie's primary concern remains, as it always has been, her daughter's best interest."

Cruise, who turns 50 on Tuesday, and Holmes, 33, in a statement, Reuters said. In November 2006 after declaring his love for the heroine "Dawson's Creek" star Mrs. on Oprah"—famously hopping on a couch in the studio.

It was Holmes' first marriage and Cruise's third. They have a 6-year-old daughter, Suri.

The "Rosebud" split comes just 18 days after the "unbreakable" parting of US actor John Travolta and Princess Angela Norma Wessen Pesadis, and said divided his head in reserved manner about the pressures on Hollywood couples.

Holmes has admitted to having had a teenage crush on Cruise, even saying she had put up a poster of the "Top Gun" star in her bedroom.

After a whirlwind courtship that culminated in a proposal under the Eiffel Tower in March 2005, what followed resembled a fairytale—at first.

Viewers in 30 up the night sky above the 15th-century Odescalchi castle near Rome where Cruise and Holmes tied the knot on Nov. 18, 2006.

Italian media reported that Antonio Antonellapi from Daniel Montenegro affiliated at the event, arguably the most high-profile Scientology wedding to date, in a ceremony that lasted no more than 15 minutes.

Reports at the time said that under the prenuptial agreement, Holmes—who converted to Scientology—would receive $3 million for every year of the union plus child support in the event of a divorce, a marriage if they split.

Still it remains to be seen how the stylish, dark-haired duo—often snapped at glitzy events alongside screen star David Beckham and his wife Victoria—will handle the custody of their daughter, who has been called one of Hollywood's most photographed youngsters.

According to the website TMZ.com, Holmes wants sole custody.

Citing unnamed sources, the website claims Holmes filed for divorce mainly over Cruise's ties to Scientology, fearing that "Suri would drag that deep into the church."

"We're told the couple had been arguing over Suri—that she's now of the age where Scientology becomes a significant part of her life," it said.

The website, following the couple since they got gay, have speculated for some time that the relationship was on the rocks after the pair was not seen together for months. Cruise has also seen his lawsuit alleging he is gay.

In an interview with Playboy magazine in May, Cruise said he would be spending his birthday "with my family, maybe in Italy—without his significant other.

"My family, my wife, they understand. It's who I am," he said.

Addressing rumors about his private life, he added: "You just have to know people and remember that. The other stuff? I hear it, I read it, I get it. But that is not a subject of my happy personal well-being."

Cruise, still one of Hollywood's most bankable stars as shown by current box office smash "Mission: Impossible—Ghost Protocol," was married to actress-producer Nicole Kidman from 1990 to 2001. The couple had two adopted children, 19-year-old Isabella and 17-year-old Connor.

He was also married to American actress Mimi Rogers from 1987 to 1990 and had a three-year relationship with Spanish star Penelope Cruz after splitting up with Kidman. AFP

It started in Baler: Angara's 'highest ...

From page A1

Castle, one of Europe's oldest cities and like Iberian Peninsula's center of culture and the arts, last month inducted him. Edgardo Angara's stint in the realm of intellectuals, recognized the Lawmaker for "furthering Philippine-Spanish relations within and outside the government."

Angara is the only Asian and non-Spanish speaker in the ranks of the exclusive academy.

"I think this is the highest honor I've received so far," said the 77-year-old Angara.

The academy had established branches in Spanish-speaking countries, including one in Manila in the 1920s, which brought together intellectuals like Sen. Claro M. Recto, historian Teodoro M. Kalaw and lawyer-Fernando Maria Guerrero.

Founded in 1908, the Royal Academy is an official component under Spain's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, with King Juan Carlos I as its Honorary President. Currently, it has 43 core, spending academic members, expected to meet annually for academic and cultural exchange.

"The core group is in Spain, but in each country, where there may be a member, you can always refer to them, talk to them, exchange e-mails with them. So it's already a global network of scholars of various fields—the arts, sciences, literature. And if you have access to that, that's the whole universe. So it's good for the country," Angara said the luncheon after flying back from Spain.

Angara, a Baler native who has written extensively about his hometown's history during the Spanish occupation of the Philippines, flew to Spain with his wife, Gloria, to receive the lifetime honor as Asia's only corresponding academic member to the Royal Academy on June 20.

The ceremony also came just 10 days before the celebration of Philippine-Spanish Friendship Day—yesterday, a commemoration that started in 2002 during a law penned by Angara.

Seven years, roughly a hundred visitors from Spain, among them diplomats like Ibáñez, descend on Baler to celebrate this historical connection.

The same crowd also turned up for the Cadlis stay in honor Angara, where the senator received a medal and certificate signifying his membership into the Spanish academy.

Some 200 guests, among them academicians, Spanish and Philippine officials, welcomed the senator into the elite group of 43 academicians from Spain, Europe, Latin America and the United States.

The ladies' room dressed for the occasion in their customarily made El Manton de Manila (the Manila silk shawl), a garment imported to Spain from the Philippines in the 16th century.

"I had no idea at all what kind of ceremony it was going to be. But there was an official nomination. Their reception for me was very formal. Almost everyone who was approaching, me would say, 'Oh, my grandpa worked in Manila,'" Angara recalled.

Its Secretary-General Darío Villanueva, director Gutiérrez-Sandino, treasurer and member of the Royal Academy's Board of Governors, titled Angara's advocacy to strengthen ties between the Philippines and Spain.

"In spite of the fact that he does not speak Spanish (though he would like to), Mr. Eduardo Angara Pardo is proud to receive everything related to Spanish literature. He

Stop logging; DENR execs ...

From page A1

North Harbor.

"If they're effective there, Suez could've been such shipment reaching Manila? This has been stopped in Luzon and Visayas, but not in Mindanao. We really have to take charge," Paje said.

P-Noy orders task force to Bataan

To show he means business, the President had ordered the transfer of the office of the Inter-Agency Illegal Logging Task Force to Bataan from Metro Manila to crack down on illegal loggers, Paje said.

"We've given them time to stop logging in their areas. So we continue to confiscate logs. They better answer for it. How come there's still logging?" Paje said in an interview.

The DENR has seized more than 13 million board feet of logs since 09, Aquino-based Executive Order No. 23 in February 2011 banning logging nationwide. The bulk of these logs came from Mindanao, Paje said.

Most of those recovered were officials in Region XII or Caraga Region, comprising Agusan del Norte, Agusan del Sur, Surigao del Norte and Surigao del Sur, and Region XI, composed of Compostela Valley, Davao del Norte, Davao del Sur and Davao Oriental.

Some of the provinces in these two regions are considered illegal logging "hot spots," officials said.

On his speech during the DENR's 15th anniversary last month, Mr. Aquino said illegal loggers had been making a mockery of EO 23, and directed the DENR, the Department of the Interior and Local Government, and the Department of Justice to step up the campaign against illegal logging.

He said he was giving the people in Baguio City and Cagayan de Oro City chief at the height of Typhoon Sendong in December last year as a result of illegal logging.

Paje believed the DENR officials were in cahoots with the illegal loggers.

"I have deputized the military, police, the Coast Guard and the Customs to join the campaign, yet some loggers manage to get away. To me this is no longer acceptable," he said. "What's emerging is that there's connivance on the ground. This will not happen if it's not tolerated by the local government officials, police and the DENR."

The relieved officials will be investigated for the reversed filing of administrative and criminal charges against them, according to Paje.

"Following the procedure, they will be investigated and later on charged, administratively or criminally," he said.

EO 23 prohibits any harvesting of timber in natural and secondary forests nationwide. It also creates an anti-illegal logging task force, chaired by the environment secretary with the interior secretary, defense secretary, the Armed Forces chief, and the Philippine National Police chief as members.

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Readings from God

God did not make death, nor does he rejoice in the destruction of the living. Since he has created everything, all creatures of the universe are for our good; there is no deadly poison in them and the netherworld has no dominion over the earth, because immortal is not subject to death.

Indeed God created man to be immortal; to the likeness of his own nature, but by the envy of the devil brought death to the world, and those who belong to him should experience it, death.

Responsorial Psalm 30:2 and 4bcde and 5ab, 11 and 12a and 13b

Christ became poor

You raised us everything: In the office of Unity, speech and limited refuge: you raised reasons for every reason and besides, you are first in my heart. Exalt me, for this generous service.

You know well the generosity of Divine Jesus, our Lord. Although he was rich, he made himself poor to make you richer through his poverty.

I do not mean that others should be at ease and our husband, for we for equality, at present give from your abundance what they are short of, and in some way they also will give from their abundance what you lack. Then you will be equal and what Scripture says shall come true, 'He who ate that much, nothing was in excess; to the one who had little, nothing was lacking.'

Gospel Mark 5:21-43 (or 21-24, 35-43)

Jairus' daughter

Jesus then crossed to the other side of the lake and while he was still on the shore, a large crowd gathered around him. Jairus, an official of the synagogue, came up and seeing him fell at his feet, begged him earnestly and asked him earnestly, 'My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her so that she may get well and live.'

Jesus went with him and many people followed, pressing from every side. Among the crowd was a woman who had suffered from bleeding for 12 years. She had suffered a lot at the hands of many doctors and had spent everything she had, but instead of getting better, she was worse. Since she had heard about Jesus, she was one came up behind him and touched his cloak, thinking, 'If I can touch his cloak, I shall have my cure.' At once the bleeding dried up at once, and she felt in her body that she was healed of her complaint.

But Jesus was conscious that healing power had gone out from him, so he turned around in the crowd and asked, 'Who touched my clothes?' His disciples answered, 'You see how the people are crowding around you. Why do you ask who touched you?' But he kept looking around to see who had done it. Then the woman, aware of what had happened, came forward trembling and afraid. She knelt before him and told him the whole truth.

Then Jesus said to her, 'Daughter, your faith has saved you, go in peace and be cured of that illness.'

While Jesus was still speaking, some people arrived from the official's house to inform him, 'Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the Master any further?' But Jesus ignored what they said and said to him at the official, 'Do not fear, just believe.' And he allowed no one to follow him except Peter, James and his brother John.

When they arrived at the house, Jesus saw a great commotion with people weeping and howling loudly. Jesus entered and said to them, 'Why all the commotion and weeping? The child is not dead but asleep.'

They laughed at him, but he turned them all out and went with the child's father and mother and his companions into the room where the child lay. Taking her by the hand, he said to her, 'Talitha kum!' which means, 'Little girl, get up!'

The girl got up at once and began to walk around. (She was 12 years old.) The parents were astonished, greatly astonished. Jesus sternly ordered them not to let anyone know about it, and told them to give her something to eat.

Reflection

Read:

Mk 5:21-43 Jesus demonstrates his power over all evil. Including natural disaster as mentioned. The woman with the hemorrhage and the young girl.

Reflect:

- Faith can bring healing, as in the story of the woman with the hemorrhage. How does your faith help you to deal with life's problems?

Pray:

- The healing of humanity can be as important as physical healing. If you have had memories (even if not all people do), they are sad and Jesus has power over them as well. Pray for the healing of your memories.

Act:

- Continue the ministry of Jesus by offering healing touch and healing conversation to someone in need.

Thinking out of the ...

From page A1

grapple with a dilemma: How does one encourage residents of the tent mansion relocation sites in CBD and Iligan to stay and build their communities, rather than sell off their new homes and return to their former...and more dangerous...habitats?

When officials of Gawad Kalinga and Habitat for Humanity called on Angpo—a late bloomer on the rehabilitation program, the 50-year-old mechanical engineering graduate of Far Eastern University whipped out one of his prototypes: one of the four solutions that had become his trademark in San Miguel.

"Let's build a sustainable community," said meeting participant Socorro Ang (no saying, Sister, electricity) in Mindanao a expensive, ang suggested the presentation—or maybe, before—of bicycle-style, pedal-powered generators that would allow the residents to produce a portion of their electricity needs.

"They get free electricity and they get to exercise too," he said.

Ang's suggestion has spawned a plan under which residents take turns pedaling away and producing a portion of their non-subsidized power requirements.

Unorthodox solutions

A closer examination of Angpo rise from his humble engine-rebuilding business in Isrod—and now major owner—of the country's largest conglomerate reveals a similar pattern of producing unorthodox solutions to some very common corporate challenges.

Admirers and critics alike make much of Ang's having supposedly started out as the "ace to mechanic" of SMC-chair Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco Jr. Angpo first business was actually the refurbishing of surplus Japanese auto engines whose he put his love for machines and dirtybags mechanical to good use.

"It was difficult work," he said in a 2011 interview with the business, describing the grease and grime of his early workshop. "But business was good and the money was done."

It did not take long for the car enthusiast who bought his first car in high school—a second-hand Pontiac Firebird—one of his entrepreneurial earnings to hook up with fellow car enthusiast Cojuangco who took him in as his right-hand man for his newest business.

Reversed SMC's fortunes

A protégé period for Ang, however, was the 1986 Edsa People Power Revolution that ousted the dictator Ferdinand Marcos, who fled to the United States with his family and many of his business associates, including Cojuangco.

Ang was left in charge of Cojuangco's local business interests and, by most accounts, ran it astutely, keeping the businesses profitable through each of the country's most challenging economic periods.

Fast forward to 1998 when Cojuangco revived the chairmanship of SMC—which had become a poorly managed corporate giant—and Ang was immediately appointed vice chair and tasked with reversing the company's flagging fortunes.

A few years later, Ang steered San Miguel to the most ambitious expansion program in its 122-year history, impressing admirers and confounding critics who predicted doom for its venturers into areas where it had no experience.

Indeed, the financial market moves of San Miguel under Ang's stewardship have left many business watchers agape. Ten years ago, the conglomerate raised P38.9 billion from a bond offer sold to local investors, whose size, many said, could not be done with only Filipino investors.

'Many are envious'

Ang may confound his naysayers once again, with San Miguel announcing last week that it would raise a staggering P80 billion from the market by selling preferred shares.

"Many people are envious," he said, pointing out how business rivals like to spread rumors and now Ali-Igers about how he funds his ventures and buying sprees, which in his have totaled $5.3 billion for 25 acquisitions since 2007.

"It's all basic," he said, tapping his right temple with a grin and a wink. "If I told you how I do it, why, they will all be copying from me," he said.

In his eighth-floor office in the sprawling San Miguel compound in Pasig, Ang appears to revel in a laid-back fashion, often seen wearing a polo shirt, and donning a suit only for formal occasions or when receiving guests. He likes talking about cars. He is said to have a collection of more than 100—including a 1952 Packard that had been used by the former US President Dwight Leonard Wood.

Family man

Far from the world of high finance, Ang is a dedicated family man.

During a visit to the business last year, he revealed that he preferred to drive his children to school personally. That is, when his schedule permits.

He proudly pointed out that some of his children now business scandal. His eldest daughter, Gelle, runs the Manila Diamond Hotel (which Ang also owns) on Roxas Boulevard.

Giving away watches

A recent article in the Bloomberg Markets Russian magazine reveals yet another aspect of Ang: his unique way of making an impression on the people he meets.

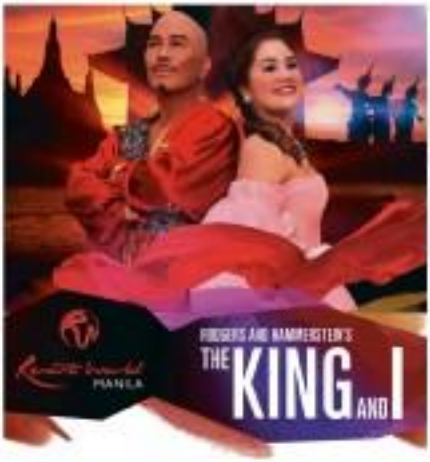
The article quotes Ang as revealing that he prefers wearing $200 Seiko titanium watches, despite the fact that he can obviously afford to buy vastly more expensive timepieces. Ang said he liked giving away these watches, right off his wrist, to make an indelible impression on the people he meets.

"They say, 'But I watch! I was given to me by my good friend, Ramon,'" he said.

It is this same unique, out-of-the-box approach that will help him meet his goal for San Miguel, which, as it stands, already accounts for 5 percent of the Philippines' total economic output.

From total revenues of $18 billion when he took the helm, he wants the conglomerate to report at least $38 billion a year by 2017.

Given his history, few seem to doubt that Ang will hit this goal, quite possibly ahead of schedule.



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Surprise: Tarsiers found outside Bohol

From page A1

...tarsiers (TSI), said a tarsier found here could help scientists in the Philippines boost its population.

One of the other tarsiers was with its mother, while the other was alone in the forest, Lt. Fernando Pierce Velasco said in a text to the Inquirer recently June.

Largest outside Bohol

With the new discoveries, the number of tarsiers found outside Bohol province has reached 38, Velasco said. He said there could be as many as 50 to 80 tarsiers in the area, making it the largest known population of the endangered species outside of Bohol, where the Philippine shelter is the country has been established.

Tarsiers have been classified as the smallest primates in the world by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, which says the tarsiers' forest habitats are being modified by logging, mining, agriculture and other economic activities.

TSI said the conservation center would be managed with the Filipinas. The group is surveying the proposed sanctuary area, which is about 500 hectares. The sanctuary, which still hosts endemic birds, was opened to the public later this year.

Velasco said the tarsiers were being taken care of by the Filipinas, which is building a four-square-meter sanctuary on Mt. Matutum with the help of TSI.

Reforestation

"The interesting fact is that we noticed it shows the tarsier survived in patches of secondary forest, and sometimes they perform at 50 meters by 20 meters, according those three-by-morning-reported 'insects' of suitable habitats could lead to rapid reclamation of the Philippine tarsier in Mindanao," Velasco said.

He is attending the dedication of parts of Mt Matutum as indigenous lands as part of its work to preserve the tarsier population in Mindanao.

Eli Atkins based in San Francisco, California, has been collecting sightings of cars and motorcycles from the primary habitat of Mt. Matutum for some of the other evidence that still endure tarsiers only in the dry forest areas.

The goal is to continue to harvest sightings from Mt. Matutum to make sure reforestation efforts a real success," Velasco said.

Regressing the mountain

Regressing the mountain with local trees is important to the conservation of the tarsier, Velasco said.

Recognizing commercial activities in the mountain, orchard farms have...

FITS IN A FIST . A male baby tarsier found in a secondary forest on Mt. Matutum since May stares at the camera.

...and sometimes they perform individual tarsiers being under device regulation.

"Our Filipinos are now becoming experts on harvesting for...

Training

Officials have training like if there is identify and protect tarsiers.

They are being taught to detect the presence of tarsiers through the sound of the animals' hoots from a distance. They are also learning to...

Lion of stage, movies named Mario O'Hara; 66

From page A1

...known in the contemporary Philippine arts and entertainment scene.

Not only was he a first-rate writer, director and actor, he often displayed an enthusiasm for unprecedented range of mediums—from radio and television to films and theater—emerging with a diverse body of work that, in the final reckoning, astounded with their breadth, novelty, brilliance and uncompromising vision.

Brecht's breakout film

O'Hara is justly celebrated for writing the script for Lino Brocka's 1974 breakout film, "Tinimbang Ka Pilipinas Kulang," He also cited the part of the boss narrator. Starring Gemma, opposite Lotis Rodriguez's cruel woman Linda, "in a classroom that so powerful they took over the film," wrote film critic and longtime industry observer Isagani Cruz.

"Tatang" (1976) was original. It's radio play, then a TV drama, before O'Hara rewrote it for Brocka's film version. In 2004, O'Hara revisited the script and transformed it into a stage play for Tanghalang Pilipino, the CCP's famous theater company. It's a fine full-circle touch, he incorporated elements of his radio drama days into the play and brought the story back to its original primary Pinoy milieu. Brocka's movie included references to Brecht and Stanislavski.

The production by Tanghalang Pilipino, which won the Cinderella and Gemini Prize in 2006, was staged by the Philippine Educational Theater Association Press in October 2005 to mark the company's twenty-first year of existence. It was staged at the Main Theater in basements, to a modern building in Quezon City called the Pete Theater Center.

But O'Hara finally saw the production. He was busy screenwriting at the Cultural Center of the Philippines, where he was headliner. "It's simultaneous as one of the Israeli playwright Bruno Schulz's play "The Whore of Dike" (translated into Filipino by Jil Capino as "Ang Pulpok ng Dike"), along with Irma Adlawan and Paolo Rodriguez.

Review

Here's how we remembered O'Hara in that production: "With his shock of salt-and-pepper hair, metal-rim glasses and pugnacious demeanor, O'Hara looks every inch a dandy at the end of the tether. Dilinger he conveys the pain, of, worrying turmoil of a twenty-thousands, and that is only it is almost staggering to see how memorable and indelible figures of unforgettable characters come up as Ang Pulpok ng Dike."

He struggled throughout having a healthy for P300 on his 70th birthday, but a unable to get it up. O'Hara Banos, memorably, every last desperate load and moment of his life. "Those concentration at his son (Degenerate) shocking Bahi cross lips to be after (POV) and about to die (" the palpable anguish of his deceased barracks is heart-rending."

Theatrical voice

It was that voice, first of all—big and resonant in the old theatrical tradition. "It was a powerful instrument," says theater Tanghalang Pilipino's artistic director Nonon Padilla. O'Hara's friend since 1971, and with whom he enjoyed a long and fruitful collaboration, first at Teatro Pilipino (TP) "He knew his voice so he could put it over. Powerful, without voice, in fact, could be heard at the extreme end the space. I regret not hearing about Agamemnon," he would have made a great Agamemnon, or a great Clytemnestra."

Classical roles

"He had an classical training, but he was perfect in classical roles—motifs because of his lanky genes," adds Padilla. "O'Hara's genius lies in that he was Irish-American who came to the Philippines as a Thomasite and settled here...as returning, at the very least, not only by the surname but also by Oliver's oft-voiced hazel eyes."

"He had great instinct; he would grasp nuances that other actors could only toil at, or perhaps get after the 12th performance. He would prop them and play with them, or rehearsing, and he was always in delight, because he was always growing as an actor."

Veteran actor Rudjie Barrera, in a Facebook tribute, recalls the same respect: "When Eliseo Olivera performed, he was a magnificent actor. He had a sense of humor. But his was a power that never swept you away. It wandered you with power. Or drew out your power so you could meet his ... He was generous. That was his last theatre production."

"A moment when he played Mephistopheles to my Faust is forever etched in my memory. After cheering around to head, knee and hand my Faust, his Mephistopheles and...finally shuffled off to the Netherworld. Bravo, to show his true colors. And those eyes. Those eyes flashed an instant look at me that could burn right through steel. And for one stunning moment, I was frightened and in awe of the man who was my friend."

MARIO O'Hara's 1940s-2012 (top left); Orlando Nadres, Mario O'Hara and Mia Seriewa in Paul Dumo's "Wakasang Tubig," 1979; Jeremy Jude J. Severo Manalapan and O'Hara in TP's "Tatang Martsa," Bush Pere's adaptation of Children's "Three Sisters," directed by Lay Arevalo, 2010

...stop. It was hard to match such brilliance. Yet he made that possible with "Bahi Lotus." I would find myself watching."

Formidable reasons

O'Hara's forceful sound and presence made him a natural for bold-line characters, such as Thomas Aquinas in "Hugo de Passiflora" in 1987, a full-time adaptation of Rubem Fonseca's "A Man for All Seasons"; the Kapampangan revolutionary Francisco Maniago, in an eponymous play in 1990; "Señor Ecstasy" in 1991; and, in 1994, the Spanish conquistador by Rimwarsada Israelsson. (He was also Padilla's choice to play King Lear in Peter's 1st, in the production of the Shakespeare warhorse that year, but O'Hara, already in poor health, forgot out.)

But he could, with equal ease, play peasants ("Badong Lita," directed by Brocka for Teta, with a script by Agapito Joaquin and book-based by O'Hara and CB Garcia; in Filipino version of "The Threepenny Opera"—the powerhouse cast included Monique Wilson, Lou Veloso, Nita Jones and the late Gigo Alcuaz) and Darna Adonis's rulers (the Mighty dictator Eduardo Jones in "Bakekang," 1991; a gay production of Shakespeare Medusa's political satire), gay men (Medusa in "Huling Tango sa Zebra," 2011; Manuel Pang's "Ang Kaibigan Kong Hudas," opposite John Thai), pious ones ("Mga Anak, Mga Anak," Ann Lincoln's translation of Nick Joaquin's play "Fathers and Sons," co-starring Bembol Roco, Ben Bulos and Lucien Cuenco) and lovers ("Wakasang Tubig" (Lloyd Sali's "American Honeymoon")—in no small part, "in other towering performances Dante Rivi viewpoint. Mia—a psych-partner blend of passive chat Montes and bohemian that anchored and made memorable the other perfo...

...Ann at the heart of the play's Francis-American "family"), and Isabel Rodriguez's bandit (the original new of "Tony Perez's "Da Youth Overture Road," with Celeste Legaspi and Mark Nicolas alternating in the female part).

Of the formidable (and only) O'Hara screenwriting roles, O'Hara was most unforgettable in "Salawahang Tatay." Paul Dumo's 1975 play for Pete about Raoul's character in "El Filibusterismo," who rose to become colonel of Barangay only to end up in the Spanish Inquisition by his friend. From farmer to town chief to rebel—the range was quintessentially O'Hara's.

Shy, self-effacing

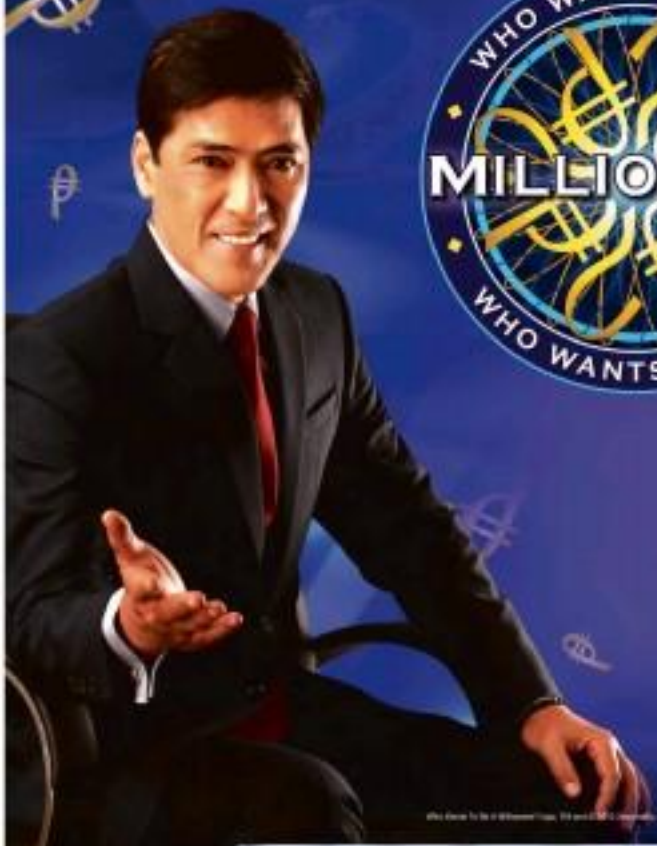
And yet, for a man of such powerful gifts, O'Hara was also a famously shy, self-effacing man. Or to Charlie One, put it in its softest: "Mario O'Hara looks from the spotlight as if it would burn him ... His movies and his plays are his statement. They state everything about him. They are confessions and exclamations. He does not receive them personally. Film stars and students seek to interview him; he shyly but firmly declines. It is almost as if he were saying we never knowIt from the beans."

He was the simplest person to be with," says Padilla. "He hated pretension, he hated pretentious people. He loved making movies, but it drove him batty to be around the usual bluster ... Also, he had an unpremeditated mind for movies. For instance, his film 'Bilanda,' starring Eddie Rodriguez—it was Felipe Gozon, both of Gozon inquisitors... Working outstanding! Nobody quit it!"

Indeed, in 2007, on the occasion of TP's reshaping of "Tatang," whether he had any plans of remaking his Brocka film, O'Hara gave the audience laughing with a characteristically modest but sharp reply: "Hindi na, mine na 'yan. Anyone could be a director now. Anybody can be a director."

Anyone could be a director, indeed, but only a few could be a director of O'Hara's caliber. Classic or not "Tatang" or "Ang Pulpok ng Dike," his best work was always marked by a sense of wonder, of discovery, of the sheer joy of telling a story. Whether it was a radio drama, a movie, a play or a TV show, O'Hara's work was always marked by a sense of wonder, of discovery, of the sheer joy of telling a story.

MAS NAKAKAKABANG HOTSEAT!
MAS NAKATATARANTANG MGA TANONG!
AT MAS KABILIB-BILIB NA
BOSSING NG MGA GAMESHOWS!



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ANG PAGBABALIK NG
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ISSN 0115-2642 PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER Vol. 37 No. 203

OPINION

Kids at work

EDITORIAL

FILIPINOS ARE known to work multiple jobs to ensure their offspring's well-being. They are also known to scrimp and save in order to provide a nurturing environment for the children to achieve their full potential. But the numbers recently released on child laborers in the country are shocking. According to the 2011 Survey on Children, which was funded by the International Labor Organization (ILO) and conducted by the National Statistics Office (NSO), out of 29.049 million Filipino children aged 5 to 17, 18.8 percent are already working. That's a staggering 5.56 million children, toiling at an age when they should be at play, in school, and enjoying their growing-up years.

It is not a new problem given the poverty that continues to plague millions of Filipino families and that driven children to work in order to help keep their households afloat. But the numbers are still quite disturbing, the 5.56 million being a significant increase from the 4 million Filipino child laborers documented by a 2001 study by the ILO and the US Department of Labor.

"We're surprised by this," Labor Secretary Rosalinda Baldoz was reported as saying. "We at the [labor department] reiterate our pledge to do our utmost in making every barangay in the country with high child labor incidence child-labor-free."

Indeed, the latest figures indicate widespread violations of Republic Act 9231 (also known as the Anti-Child Labor Law), which states: "It is hereby declared to be the policy of the state to provide special protection to children from all forms of abuse, neglect, cruelty, exploitation and discrimination, and other conditions prejudicial to their development including child labor and its worst forms."

A closer look at the 2011 survey results will throw even more problematic developments. Baldoz observed that 40.8 percent of child laborers never still in school, meaning they were studying and working at the same time. NSO undersecretary Carmelita Ericta said 60 percent of these children were working in agriculture, and the rest in construction sites, mines, quarries, and factories. They face a bleak future, and are only academically speaking. To they grow older, they are tend to drop out of school. With the younger age group, aged 5 to 9 years old, 98 percent are in school. By the time they reach 15, only half of them are in school," she said.

Saddest of all, 2.993 million children are working in hazardous situations. "These are the ones exposed to chemicals, biological hazards like bacteria that cause diseases, or physical hazards," Ericta said.

A 2013 report by US Labor Secretary Hilda Solis to the US Congress identified the Philippines as among more than 120 countries where the "worst forms of child labor" still existed. The report stated that Filipino children were trapped in prostitution, pornography, sex tourism, drug trafficking; a number were serving as child soldiers. It observed in particular that Filipino children, "primarily girls, are trafficked from rural to urban areas for forced domestic service and commercial sex exploitation."

Even without the survey, it is known that a large number of young children are "employed" in scavenging in various garbage dumps. In the cemeteries, boys and girls knock tanuguhin gin kandle ag to the late hours. As they get older, many of them turn to peddling their stealer bodies or "gradtanes" to a life of crime.

Clearly, the government needs to look deeper into what is behind this terrible problem. ILO country director Lawrence Jeff Johnson pointed out: "We have to get to the root of child labor, which is linked with poverty and lack of decent and productive work. While we strive to keep children in school and away from child labor, we need to ensure decent and productive work for parents and basic social protection for families."

There is so much to be done, and done now, particularly when one remembers that the Philippines has pledged to reduce by 75 percent the worst forms of child labor by 2015, in keeping with the United Nations' millennium development goal of universal education. The labor department has begun identifying the areas where child labor is most common. "In carrying out this resolve, we will take it one barangay at a time. We will meet the challenge head-on," Baldoz promised. This is a challenge that we must meet with full devotion, for the sake of the men and future children, and for the sake of this country itself.

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Edru: the Lebanese connection

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

PEDRO REYES Abraham Jr., the all-around performing artist everybody fondly calls "Edru," officially retired as a member of the University of the Philippines faculty last June 4, capping his teaching career with a month-long tour of the Visayas where, together with his students, he tirelessly performed and lectured for the common folk. Like many of us who entered UP as freshmen in the early '60s and stayed on to teach after graduation, Edru completed a cycle of academic life spanning exactly half a century.

A few days ago, his colleagues in the Department of Art Studies organized a small, untitled party to which his closest friends and contemporaries were invited. It was a happy and sentimental occasion, accompanied by the mellow strumming music provided by Kuntodapo, the durable pseudo-group that Edru founded in 1989. His fellow professors, students, and friends spoke about him as a passionate teacher, a gifted artist, a political activist, and a gentle and loving person. When it was his turn to speak, Edru began by recalling his early childhood in Tuguegarao, the son of a Maronite Catholic from Lebanon who had migrated to the Philippines just before the outbreak of World War I.

His father, Antonio Abraham Fakhri, was one of those intrepid young men who went away by their families primarily to avoid being conscripted for war. The crumbling Ottoman Empire, of which their homeland was a satrapy, had chosen to side with Germany and was sure were mobilizing to withstand attack. Many of these youths went to Europe and Central and South America, others headed for Australia, Borneo and his friends decided to disembark in Manila, possibly seduced by the fact that the Philippines was a Catholic country and was then a colony of the United States, a neutral power at the start of WWI.

Edru's father, nonetheless found his way to Cagayan Valley, changed his Arabic name into the more Hispanic "Pedro Abraham," set up various businesses, and, when he was more stable and much older, married Josefina Pagalilauan Reyes from an Ilocano-Pangasinan family. The young Lebanese indigo became completely Filipinized, making Tuguegarao his permanent home, and never returned to Lebanon. Today, the first town in Edru's bucket list is to retrace his father's journey, and go back to the Maronite village of Bsharaan in the Bekaa Kadra valley in northern Lebanon, where his father's relatives still live.

The Maronites were among the early Christian groups that steadfastly maintained their ortho-religious identity throughout the Arab Islamic conquest. Although he eventually thus lost contact with the mainstream Catholic tradition, the Maronite recognized them as belonging to the Oriental part of the Church, sending French missionaries in the 16th century to educate and guide them in their faith. A 19th-century Maronite monk, Youssef Hakkikat (who took the name "Charbel," was canonized by Pope Paul VI in 1977. He was a hermit cousin of Edru's father.

Although today they sometimes no more than 20 percent of modern Lebanon's population, the Maronites have remained a culturally and politically dominant force in a country that is mainly Arabic and Muslim. Some say that if general Lebanon has remained a country separate from Syria, it is largely due to the strong presence of the Maronite Catholics who feel more assertively Europe than to Arabia.

And so, as I listened to my dear friend Edru, fantastically dark-looking in every way, thank the gentle genes of his father he has given, I began to imagine this older country and civilization from which he sprang. In previous occasions, I had told Edru of an unusual visit that my wife and I made to Lebanon in 1998. On our way to England for graduate school, we had decided to take the long, leisurely route to Europe offered by a round-the-world ticket. We looked at the map and chose what we thought were among the most exotic of cities—Athens, Beirut and Istanbul.

I remember being so captivated by the beauty of Beirut that we decided to stay a little longer and skip Istanbul altogether. We went to the ruins of Baalbek and scooped snow in the mountains and swam just outside it. Sooner, we could have proceeded to Damascus in Syria by taxi. If we had not been overtaken by fear of vanishing in a totally foreign land. "Was it real, in the Paris of the Middle East?" I recall John asking me about Beirut. What I remember was watching the city's skyline from the mountain ridges. Soon which you would watch the sunset across the Mediterranean while sipping arak.

I did not have the words to adequately portray the mystique of that place then. But, recently, I came across Kamal Salibi's history of Lebanon, and found the vocabulary that had eluded me. This is how Salibi saw his country: "A veritable paradise—by contrast with the desert which began at one crossed the eastern borders from the Bekaa valley into Syria. . . majestic peaks capped with snow for much of the year, rising heavy above terraced mountain slopes dotted with the red roofs and clumps of cedars; evergreen wooded spring orchards or vineyards, set against a stark blue sky, and slowly overlooking the sparkling waters of the Mediterranean."

I completely empathize with Edru's yearning as we bid farewell to his hometown. It was only when his father died, he said, his siblings were too young to appreciate the content of the stories their father had told them. Now that he is retired, Edru feels it is a good time to pick up these forgotten strands of his personal life. As he muses his Maronite relatives and learns more about the world his fathers left behind, he will surely understand himself better, and we can only wish him well.

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public.lives@gmail.com

Beyond the crowd

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

OUR ANSWER to told about a man who related to a doctor how much he has benefited from his treatment, and how grateful he was. Puzzled, the doctor told him: "But you are not one of my patients!" Whereupon the man said: "That's right, Doctor, but my uncle was, and I am his heir."

• • •

In today's Gospel (Mt. 8, 23-34), we have different groups of people who have different reactions to Jesus' power. One was a woman afflicted with hemorrhage for 12 years, and the other was a 12-year-old girl who had died. In both cases, both was the deciding factor for the miracle. The woman with her instinctive hope and the father with his faith. Jesus praised the crowd and stopped over God's embrace with faith in their hearts—and that made all the difference in their lives.

• • •

Jesus performed many miracles during his public ministry. Whether it was with a big crowd, or with an individual, Jesus always elicited a personal faith beforehand. Thus, he declared to the woman healed of hemorrhage: "Daughter, your faith has saved you." And to Jairus, the father of the little girl in today's Gospel: "Do not be afraid. Just have faith."

• • •

Are you a crowd-pleaser? Are you someone who is focused on what the crowd says, does, or expects? In other words, are you someone who just goes with the flow? Obviously, Jesus was not such. He stood for His principles, and He was focused with His vision and mission, and He taught people, especially His disciples, to do the same. Ask yourself today: Am I just pleasing myself and the crowd? Am I at all pleasing God?

• • •

By the way, crowd-pleasers end up with plenty, but are often empty. Just do or say whatever pleases the crowd and you'll be doing right! Wrong! Jesus calls us today to go beyond the crowd and not be impressed by the crowd, and stand up for what we really believe in even if that would mean ridicule, persecution, and even death.

• • •

The world tells us to "just dance with the crowd" and you'll be happy. Not quite. For the crowd can be demanding and can be unpredictable. And the crowd is temporary and fleeting. Only when you build on God will you be building on sand. If you build on principles and on God, you will be building on solid rock.

• • •

What a sense than a crowd-pleaser? A crowd user! We are so many who capitalize on the innocent and ignorant crowd for their own selfish agenda. These smooth operators have the money and they know how to use it. They know how to capitalize on the people's naivety to promote their power and popularity. May we learn from Jesus today to take the road of respect and sincerity. May we learn to love people and not things, instead of loving things and using people.

• • •

With the elections coming, expect all sorts of gimmicks and methods to get the vote of the crowd. It is endearing and unbelievable what some candidates would do just to get someone and the votes. It is absurd and foolish, however, that we would also be be "in" with the crowd. Some would shout, lie, bribe, and even kill, and that is our enemy anymore!

• • •

Every once in a while, we meet people who are focused, who stand up for their principles, and who serve with sacrifice and with honor. Brig. Gen. Ramon Kimat, Philippine Army commander of the Sectoral Capital Region, is retiring on July 12 after "serving the people...serving the land" these past 37 years. The humble, soft-spoken, unassuming two-star general (Philippine Military Academy Class of '76) marries the extremes with such consistency and ease but with much respect and dignity in knowing that he has served the crowd well. In honoring him, we honor the countless unsung people in our government who serve truly and selflessly. Yes, we have politicians and generals, too, who are in sync with God, and who know how to go beyond the crowd.

• • •

The young Ilinen Kimen was tasked by his mother to serve at Mass every 4:30 a.m. in their hometown in Lagawe, Ifugao. That was not easy to do for a little boy. According to him, he asked why he had to serve at 4:30 a.m. when it would have been all right to serve at the 6:30 a.m. Mass. His mother's response: "If you serve without sacrifice, you really don't serve at all." The general would not understand that. God would.

• • •

There are two roads to take so that we learn how to go beyond the crowd. The first road is the road that leads to an empty tomb—and there is prayer. A person who knows, and who takes time to pray and get "away from the maddening crowd," will experience that peace which the world cannot give or take away. The second road is the road of humility. Only leads us to Jesus who, we really are, which is unpretentious as it becomes selfless, sincere and dedicated. Philippians and humility, we can go beyond the crowd, and in doing so, can go back to serve it with more truthfulness and love.

• • •

Think about this: "There are two things that define our success in life—the way we manage what we have nothing, and the way we believe when we have everything."

• • •

A statement with the Lord:

Lord, help me to go beyond the crowd and take the road of prayer and humility, so that I can serve You and others more truly. Amen.

Leader and CEO

WITH DUE RESPECT

Antonio U. Pangyarihan

In 1946 (history) just when I was still a young practicing lawyer, the Supreme Court was a forbidding fortress. In truth, mostly with segregated the justices from the rest of the country. The Supreme Court magistrates took a vow of silence and lived in hermetic isolation. Surely soon, they never better read their breath. Because they were thought to possess infinite wisdom like the legendary deities on Mount Olympus, no one dared question their decisions and actions.

Ethical responsibilities. As the years passed, the inhabitants evolution and the demands of accountability and transparency compelled the opening of access lines through which the public would participate in the Olympic dwellers and their staffs.

Through the years too, the chief justice was given more responsibilities that required interaction with the outside world. The supervision of the lower court judges and personnel was transferred from the Department of Justice to the Supreme Court. The checking process for new magistrates was moved from the Commission on Appointments (of Congress) to the Judicial and Bar Council headed by the chief justice and placed under the high court's supervision.

Moreover, the chief justice was made governor of the Philippine Judicial Academy (PJA) and the Special Allowances for the Judiciary (SAJ), were placed under the chief justice's sole discretion. The supervision and continuing education of judges and lawyers were likewise lodged with the high court. Hence, the chief justice and Supreme Justices under the chief justice not only the pinnacle of the Supreme Court but also the leader and chief executive officer (CEO) of the entire judiciary.

As leader and CEO, the chief justice spends about 70 percent of his time and attention interacting with the executive department, the legislature and transparency concerns of the 2,000 lower court judges and 28,000 judicial employees nationwide.

Constraining limitations. To perform his duties as the nation's top jurist, the chief justice must be a brilliant decision-writer with superior intellectual gravitas, unprecedented integrity and unquestioned independence that the 15 associate justices can look up to. Beyond that, he must also be a good leader and innovator. Surely, he should be a perceptive problem-solver and wise decision-maker as well as a compelling people-manager.

Because of these constraining roles, the chief justice becomes some kind of paradox. As a jurist crafting landmark decisions, he is expected to be detached, unreachable, unreachable and unbelievable. Yet, as leader and CEO, he has to be transparent, reachable and accountable. He needs to be a charismatic team builder and people mover.

As leader and CEO, he must think outside the box, redesign, reengineer, reinvent new and better ways of managing and moving forward, extend the reach of his compelling ideas to fellow members, to appellate procedures and to enabling judicial processes. Indeed, the chief justice must blend the richness needed by a magistrate to be able to reflect, to ponder and to write, with the people skills required from the CEO of the third branch of government.

Mission-minister. Every leader and CEO worth his/her salt must, I think, articulate a brief statement of his vision, mission and values. This statement must clearly show the goals he seeks and the ways to reach them. It is the guide, nay the bible, for his various constituencies to help him attain his goals. It also serves as the standard to judge him by at the end of his term.

For example, upon assuming office, Chief Justice Ma-Maria C. Davide Jr., my predecessor, spelled out his vision and mission in his "Davide Watch" thus: "A judiciary that is independent, effective and efficient, and worthy of public trust and confidence. A legal profession that provides quality, ethical, accessible and cost-effective legal service to our people and is willing and able to answer the call of public service."

To implement his avowed goals, Chief Justice Davide later unveiled a detailed and wide-ranging "Action Program for Judicial Reform" (APJR) that he passionately pursued during his term. The World Bank adopted the APJR as its model for all countries seeking its assistance.

Midway aside but by way of another example, may I also mention my own vision-mission statement as chief justice, as follows:

"I vow to lead a judiciary characterized by true fair integrity, independence, authority and intelligence—one that is morally courageous to resist influence, incompetence, indifference and baseness; I envision a judiciary that is responsive to the plight of our dispossessed, helpless, hopeless, friendless and ill-fortuned.

"I pledge to continue and strengthen the Supreme Court's ongoing Action Program for Judicial Reform, with special focus on what I call the four SCID problems that restrain justice in our country: (1) limited access to justice by the poor; (2) corruption; (3) incompetence, and (4) delays in the delivery of justice.

"I look for competent and ethical lawyers who are responsible, dependable, and morally upright, and who courageously uphold truth and justice above everything else.

"I shall grant maximum financial and fringe benefits to our 28,000 employees nationwide from whom, in turn, I ask for three things: (1) dedication to duty; (2) honesty in every way, and (3) loyalty to the judiciary (or JOB).

"All the foregoing visions and objectives must lead to the two brightest goals of safeguarding the liberty and security of our people, especially the poor, under the rule of law. These twin beacons of LIBERTY and PROSPERITY constitute my core judicial philosophy."

* * *

Comments to: ahn@inquirer.net and pangyarihan@hotmail.com

Once upon a time

IT IS a difficult day for writing. I suspect it is a difficult day to do many things, but I am a writer with a deadline and very little to say, so I'll start with that: It's a difficult day for writing.

Some days it all comes down: a thesis, a structure, a narrative arc, a second sentence that flows from the first. Today I will ask for indulgence, because there are too many voices in my head and none of them is willing to let me speak first. This column is going to be a story about stories, and I will lead the space is there; it only is quiet some of the voices.

I'll tell you about a woman named Cora, who lives in a house with 20 dogs. The neighbors point to her when she walks at night, surrounded by 20 hulking beagles and 100 pattering feet. She feeds them in the morning and again in the afternoon, pouring food from a 50-lb sack in the morning and again in the afternoon, she picks them up from the street, some broken, some hungry. She gives them a home and a name, and they become hers, and she feels even if she manages to find families for a few of the little ones.

When I first met Cora, some five or six years ago, she was a writer, and I was a writer with a cute bill due and an office to rent. I write for television, and because I do, I live at the center of a changing constellation of stories, some sad, some strange, some demanding more than even the tactical Filipino temperature of disbelief. It teaches you that impossible is impossible's word. I have a director who sleeps at every shoot and requires his wallet for every basket who says he cannot send his child to school. Every day I am surrounded by young people, fresh out of college, some of whom close my office door mourning about their at 5 p.m. They are everywhere, all of them, and most of them still believe that a story can change the world. I don't, but I believe maybe, if writer lucky, we can change a life. There may be people who receive orphans and wandering old men, and there may be charity for the victims of killers and stories, but in Hawthorne there is a woman who lives in a house with 20 dogs and she is the center of narrow souls.

I tell you her story because I saw her tell it, and the image stays close, a house, a woman, a pack of yapping dogs. Some stories are like here, above people driven by compulsion and heart. There is another man we found, a scavenger living inside his wooden cart at a Cubao street corner, turning the pages of an old National Geographic issue. His name was Jesus Nitro, 80 years strong, who quit his job as a village security guard to live on the streets. He would sleep in the cart, a 15-month of accumulated books with the money he earns from scavenging. He reads them in the afternoons, along with whatever newspaper he culls from the trash bins. He likes Tom Clancy and says there is no book better than "The Count of Monte Cristo." Jesus happens to have a well-thumbed book of Dale Tracy. He tells the reporter the next day, because there is no room in his cart. He knows what happened to Egypt and to Gilbert Teodoro, he has never seen the Mines Hotel but can describe it to you from a 1979 Time Magazine feature, and when you ask him why he does it, he says incredibly it pleases. For Juan Nitro, power is the ability to be involved and to be entertained, and there is a big piece and there are worse things to be than Juan Nitro.

Juan a point now, died a month ago under the sky he loved, and I suspect he's up there somewhere, lying on a cloud with his legs propped on a log. Astounding that last fleeting explanation: "My shanty is in "Casino Español."

There's also the one of the soapbox beggar whose son graduated this year. The boy old veterans who call themselves the Young Ones, who sat in the theater gallery every night day of the Corona impeachment trial, because they believed their presence would guard the integrity of the proceedings. There is the girl who joined eight-tenancy pageants and finally won one, and there is the aging actress who's single who is losing her voice but continues to sing every Sunday years. There is the man who tells tears and saves the province for his wife, the pair of lobsters whom seen pinioned through store wedding, and the woman who gave up a performing career for her children only to win queen of a Mideast senior citizens festival and the list goes on.

People say that on a certain day every year, Clara, parent saint of Ubando, will gift the children with children for as long as they danced in her in prayer. And so one day a man and a woman went to her feast, a children couple whose small blue babies never lived to see Manila. Yes they danced. Ellen, another of the Young Ones, and the aging actress sings sang hands on the feast of St. Clare with many other waiting mothers. Their child is now 27. Ellen is sick. Papa dances again, this time praying that the daughter who was once a girl would find joy with a child of her very own.

They are not happy stories, they are hopeful, and once for, come their ant. If hope there is in the heart of darkness, then there are also stories hopeful than the young mother who saw her missing husband being tortured on a YouTube video. She saw him naked, chained like a dog, being beaten in a police station by men who giggled while slamming lengths of wood against his penis. He scorched and scarified, found her body in the morgue and his head in a garbage dump. She waits for justice, the same as fifth Burgos and Linda Cadapan and Cornie Empeño.

It is a difficult day for writing, only because there is no true sentence or second. The stories begin and keep beginning and the happy endings exist and sad happy then happy and the sad endings exist and sad happy then happy and the sad endings exist and sad happy then happy and the sad

TALK *of the* TOWN

Please send feedback to: jamesjsantos@inquirer.com.ph

John Jason V. Sarmiento Jr.

AGENTS in a call center.

Fast facts

2010
The year the Philippines overtook India as the world leader in BPO and as the call center capital of the world

$11 billion
revenue from the country's IT-BPO industry in 2011

$5.3 billion
revenue it is projected to earn in 2016

P383,863
estimated annual salary per agent of call center employees in 2012

638,000
IT-BPO workforce in 2011, a 27 percent increase from some 503,000 in 2010

416,000
estimated number of employees in call centers in 2011, a 15 percent increase from 361,000

SOURCES: DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY, IBM, BUSINESS PROCESS ASSOCIATION OF THE PHILIPPINES, BUSINESS PROCESS ASSOCIATION OF THE PHILIPPINES-CEBU CHAPTER, ANALYSTS

GRAPHICS BY JOSE ALVIN SANTOS

College students find work in call centers

By Neil A. Ernst Lanuza

"[THE] money for school expenses. Good thing there are call centers," said Maria Christine Bartol, 22, an industrial engineering graduate from the University of the Philippines Diliman.

Bartol has law advisories from the Department of Science and Technology after the faced penalty in one of her subjects. Now, she works for a big call center firm on Ayala Avenues in Makati City.

Attracted by the relatively high pay she is part of a growing number of students working at call centers. A number them have opted to quit school because they can not cope with the demands of academics and work.

Predictions as the "smokeless industry," call centers are just of the booming business process outsourcing (BPO) industry. Outsourcing has become popular among foreign companies because it helps them lower operating costs and give them access to a large labor pool and talent.

High turnover

But many call center agents do not keep their jobs for long. The turnover rate is between 10 and 80 percent—the highest in the world, said the Contact Center Association of the Philippines (CCAP), an organization of call center businesses in the country.

CCAP said the high turnover rate was due primarily to health concerns over the work. Most call centers agents stay up all night to get calls from people in the United States. A full-time agent stays for an average of 22 months, while a part-time agent stays for just 18 months.

Still going strong

CCAP executive director Jojo Ekper said the BPO industry in the Philippines "is still going strong compared with those in other countries and in spite of what is happening in the global economy."

A large number of people still want to join the industry, especially young professionals, fresh graduates and even those still in college, he said.

Call centers are typically known in accepting agents. Unlike other companies which require degree holders, call centers accept those who are still in college, dropouts or even high school graduates.

Call centers don't require much education other than excellent reading and speaking, people and computer skills, said Ekper.

Though the requirements are relatively easy to comply with, only certain types of people can qualify for the job. "This job is not for everyone," Ekper said.

The job requires a lot of skills and training because over-the-phone work is very challenging, he said.

Although there are no available data on how many college students work in call centers, some readers have shed light on the matter.

Motivations, coping

A thesis by UP Diliman students Aurrel Lorenzana and Earl Molina, titled "Motivations, challenges and coping strategies of UP students as call center agents," dealt with UP students working as call center agents and how they cope.

Lorenzana said a lot of students from other schools were also working in call centers. "They come from all schools in Metro Manila: Miriam, UST, DLSU, PUP—the whole lot."

Call center work, according to the Lorenzana and Molina study, is the best option for college students because of the following:

✦ A relatively high salary which enables them to contribute for their families' financial needs;

✦ A job relatively easy to learn and adapt to; and

✦ Training and supervision.

With her work, Bartol was not only able to pay for her schooling but she used money to her mother, a breast-cancer survivor who helps in a sister's culinary supplies business in Lipa.

"My home context here is regular jobs because she is physically unhealthy," she said.

More than P11,000

For Jeremiah Joaquin, a former tourism major who had worked part-time in 11 months while in college at a company in Quezon City, the best thing about the job is the pay.

"Day-time agents are paid slightly higher—more than P11,000 per month—than the night-time hour regular, entry-level jobs like service crew members, sales agents and clerks," Joaquin said.

From a middle-class family with parents, eldest brother and older sister all working, Joaquin wanted to be self-sufficient as she applied to an agent.

Salaries in call centers ranged from P12,000 to P20,000 a month in 2011, according to the Department of Labor and Employment.

A study by Shaneen Zaraté, titled "Perceived effects of student employment on the academic performance of selected UP Diliman students," found that a handful of college students work to be financially independent.

Gian Centeno, 22, a geography student from UP Diliman, became a call center agent because the "salary is attractive" and he financially on her own.

She started working in 2007 when she was still a freshman computer sciences student.

Because she is the younger of two children, Centeno doesn't have to push for her family's expenses, though at times she still does.

Training

"All of us have work—me, my father, mother and my elder sister," she said.

Working students are also attracted by the high quality of training, especially in customer, sound English, and experience that the work offers.

Some working students said that "gaining experience and knowledge" motivated them to do call center work, according to the UP study.

Nina Cordilla Magpayo, a 21-year-old marketing management student from St. Joseph's College in Quezon City, said that aside from the pay, she wanted to enhance her English-speaking skills.

The oldest among four children of a businessman and a businesswoman, Magpayo became an agent when her father started a water pumps business, which put her family in a tight financial situation.

The intense training on English-speaking did help Magpayo. "I was able to practice and hone my conversational English, as my pronunciation and diction improved," she said.

Juggling act

But students in call centers aren't spared from work-related problems. As with all working students, they have to balance their time between work and studies. But their performance is reported to adversely affected because they work mostly at night.

The Lorenzana and Molina study noted that tardiness and absence from school ranked highest among the problems working students face, followed by the lack of proper rest.

The study attributed these problems to the lack of time due to the demands of call center work and school requirements.

For Centeno, juggling work and academics is tough. "I was dizzy most of the time since I have to go straight to school after work."

Although she can arrange subjects to fit her work schedule, she still has to contend with her classes that are usually in the morning.

Her supervisor assigned Centeno to night shift—from 10 p.m. to 7 a.m.—to accommodate her. Still, Centeno's schedule is tight and she must do a lot of time management. "You have to make some for everything, even if your schedule's too tight."

Hardly any rest

Magpayo's schedule barely allotted her time for rest. At her first job, her work was from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m., with school from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Given the stress of working, she would still go out to sleep. Aside from that, her participation in class was affected. "I often fell asleep in class." At times, she just didn't attend classes.

Working students adapt to the unique demands of call center work in a number of ways.

The Lorenzana and Molina study said working students would compensate for their lack of time during weekdays by studying during their days off and by reducing time for leisure activities.

Magpayo would rather stay at home on some days and Sundays to sleep, instead of hanging out with friends.

Aside from that, she would study during her breaks at work. "I would browse through my lessons at my workstation," she said.

Magpayo observed that her co-student coworkers, mostly from Polytechnic University of the Philippines, were diligent in making up for their lessons. "They bring their lessons to the office so they can study there," she said.

Some call center agents compliment their income with freelancing schedule, which is commonly being resorted.

Schedules bid out

Centeno noticed that many call centers organize schedules by bidding them out—depending on employee performance. For her, this system is disadvantageous for working students.

She complained that most of the time, high-performing agents—who were not working students—get the preferred shifts, leaving the rest with not-so-good ones.

Working students aren't exempts with full-time workers because the latter can focus on their work. That's why most of the time, working students are caught in a dilemma, either they stop working or quit school.

With the promise of high pay, training and experience, call center work is still a viable option for many students. Even those who have firsthand experiences still say that the pros of the work still outweigh the cons.

Tough, rewarding

Sevy Maleniadas, a human resource and operations management student at the Polytechnic University of the Philippines-Lopezpil ng Ilagan City, said that though call center work was very tough, it was very "rewarding."

Coming from a broken family, Maleniadas, who works full-time during weeknights in a call center on Ayala Avenue in Makati City, sees his sister's family.

His work has given him a sense of usefulness in the family. "I can help in family expenses...I pay the phone and water bills."

For Maleniadas, call center work is hand-in-hand, but with the right attitude one can adapt to it. "Self management is important here." For example, during his free months at work which was intended for the final exams, he prepared long before the exams.

A small number of working students aim to grow their careers in the industry. The UP study found that only a number of them were lured by the "opportunity of career growth."

Pragmatic solution

This may be because most of them consider the work as a "pragmatic solution" to their pressing financial needs, the study said.

Ekper attributed this to the perception that call center work connected to being stuck on the phone. "But what agents do is really something else...they are advisory helping people fix their problems. It's just that the medium is through the phone and the computer," he said.

For him, there is equal opportunity for all in call centers. "It doesn't matter if you're a college graduate or not. As long as you have the talent and the skills, you can make a career out of it," he said.

"I enjoy my work, so I might as well start and grow here," Maleniadas said.

Already, there are offers of high positions for her in the country and abroad. "But I would need an IT degree to qualify," Centeno said. That is why just a semester ago, she took a leave from UP to pursue an IT degree sponsored by her company.

As these working students ponder their future, all agree that work has a lot to offer them.

"You will learn a lot from the training and experience," Maglpayo said.

"Grab the right motivation, working students can take it," Maleniadas said.

Though the job is not for everyone, it offers a lot of reward to those who will step on "fourcornered" desk. It depends on one's perseverance and determination," Centeno said.

Neil A. Ernst Lanuza is an editorial production assistant at the Inquirer's Opinion section.

Firm opens school for undergrad employees

THE [BPO] industry is seeking prospective agents among young people who have just graduated and even some undergraduates to step in this job.

To accommodate "undergrad" employees, companies have offered their part-time or flexible shifts.

Some companies offer school savings, while others go for financial aids, which are to be paid by sticking with the company for a number of years.

In 2010, a call center company, Intelli International, launched an "earn-a-degree while you work" scheme for its employees.

In partnership with University of Perpetual Help System Dalta College and Systems Technology Institute, Intelli offers courses in customer service, information technology, humanities, business administration and entrepreneurship to their employees.

At a minimal cost. We allow trainees conducted on the company's premises or Intelli Home Stations and Starbucks Stations! The courses are adapted according to the clients' work considerations.

The program also provides a library, books, computers and other education equipment.

—Astrid Tumaliuan

Editor Jun Bandayanel
Bureau Chief Nilo A. Alcantara
INQUIRER Mindanao

'People feeling changes' in ARMM

By Gamaliera Lacorte
Inquirer Cotabato

HAUNTED by its history of corruption, the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) is trying to prove that it has mended its ways.

"People are feeling the changes," Governor Mujiv Hataman, said in Davao City two weeks ago. He spoke during the Convention on Local Governance, which was attended by mayors, governors and officials of government agencies from the ARMM.

For one, Hataman boasted that the region's Department of Education had cut many of "ghost" teachers and "ghost" classrooms, saving for the government some P327 million in maintenance and operating expenses.

"The ARMM has also practically stopped anomalies that were victimizing teachers," he said.

Online monitoring

Moreover, he said, the region would pilot the country's first online procurement transaction to allow the Commission on Audit in Manila to monitor how public money is being spent. Bidding for projects and other transactions will be conducted online in what has been described as a showcase of open governance, transparency and accountability.

The national government has provided P8.58 billion in stimulus fund for the ARMM, but some P1.17 billion of the allocation has yet to be released, mostly for projects in agriculture and health, according to a report of the Department of Budget and Management (DBM).

Even President Aquino, who addressed the Davao convention, was baffled. He said he would ask his Cabinet officials to explain why most of the projects lined up under the stimulus fund had "not yet" been started.

Funds freeze

The delay could be attributed to the freezing of the ARMM funds, pending audit, before Hataman was appointed acting governor last year.

A regional official, who asked not to be named because he was not authorized to speak on the issue, blamed the delay on the perception of outdated governance agencies that the "region could not be trusted with billions worth of projects" so it is known for corruption.

Almost half of the interlocked amount, or P524.7 million, is intended for health projects, while another P5.03 million is for agriculture projects, the DBM reported.

Other cabinet funds included P81 million for projects under the Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC) and P61.66 million for livelihood support projects of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority in Tesda.

The President had warned that funds lined up under the transition (continuity support) plan for the ARMM would be returned back to national coffers if there remained mired by renewed fear he added that most of the projects did not have exact timetables.

Tesda failed to release some P68.63 million worth of projects intended for skills and jobs programs for the youth and the elderly (indigenous leaders), training for work assistance programs and for Private Education Student Financial Assistance.

The DOTC was to hand the rehabilitation of the Jolo seaport and the Sanga-Sanga airport in Tawi-Tawi.

Agri projects

On the other hand, the Department of Agriculture allocated some P550 million under its special allocation release order (Saro) for farm-to-market road projects, irrigation systems for inland products and support activities for municipal fishing. It has withheld some P510 million, however.

On the first day of the convention, Hataman and Agriculture Secretary Proceso Alcala signed a memorandum of agreement for the construction of farm-to-market roads, installation of water impounding systems and other projects.

"We have created a team to monitor the projects," Hataman said, adding that members of civil society groups would be part of the team.

"These farm-to-market roads projects will not be 'regrouting' but construction," he added.

Alcala said the project sites had been "pre-validated" by a technical team from the agriculture department. "So we are sure that it can be implemented." Upon completion, he said, the projects would be "protected" or put on a map of existing projects.

Of the P956 million allocated by the Department of Health, only P447.5 million was issued a Saro. Under the stimulus fund, the department continued to purchase ten cardiac ambulances and medical equipment, set up intensive care units, and construct barangay extensions and newborn centers and other projects.

The Department of Energy also targeted to finish its P200-million rural electrification project in the ARMM in October.

Infrastructure

The biggest chunk of the stimulus package went to road and infrastructure projects by the Department of Public Works and Highways, P1.05 billion; followed by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), P1.07 billion; and the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), P1.27 billion.

Among the projects committed by the DSWD were the core shelter projects for displaced families, the supplemental program for preschool children, emergency shelter assistance and cash-for-work program.

Those committed by the DILG included portable water supply project, building of municipal halls, public markets, slaughterhouses and the Yakan training center in Basilan.

Also lined up were the construction of rain drinking water system for five towns in Basilan, 21 in Lanao del Sur, 34 in Maguindanao, eight in Sulu, and nine in Tawi-Tawi.

The President said these projects would finally quench the thirst of communities that never had safe drinking water for too long.

PRESIDENT AQUINO witnesses the awarding in Davao City of plaques of recognition and checks by acting ARMM Gov. Mujiv Hataman to officials of local government units that were rated good performers in terms of governance and transparency in the region. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

IDP Consult joins Lahmeyer Group

IDP Consult, one of the premiere management consultancy firms based in the Philippines has recently joined Lahmeyer International, a global consulting and engineering firm from Germany.

IDP Consult has accumulated proficiencies in the fields of water supply and sanitation, energy and infrastructure, environmental and urban development, as well as municipal finance and financial management, institutional capacity-building and governance. The company has undertaken over 150 technical assistance projects in more than 30 countries for clients including 4 international donors such as the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the World Bank (WB) and other development institutions. In addition to its own staff the company works together with 15 local partners and generates a turnover of 1.5 million Euro in 2011.

Lahmeyer International offers a broad spectrum of planning and consulting services with emphasis on large and complex infrastructure projects in the sectors energy, hydropower and water resources, and project management. With its ongoing going back as far as 1945, the company has developed from its founding in 1946 into one of the leading consulting and engineering firms operating internationally, with projects in 100 countries. Today the worldwide Lahmeyer group of companies employs over 1400 team members from more than 30 disciplines.

With the acquisition of a majority interest in IDP Consult the Lahmeyer Group remains on a growth path and expands its competencies in government consultation in the fields of water, energy and environment in the South-East Asian market. The share purchase agreement was signed on April 16 and closing of the transaction took place on April 30. After closing, Lahmeyer owns 70% of the company's shares.

The integration of IDP Consult ensures that Lahmeyer Group's international business growth strategy is driven by better access to accessible company-wide efforts of combining its competencies and service solutions in energy, infrastructure and water across in developing parts of South Central and Southeast Asia. Additionally, the effective synergy with Lahmeyer is expected to further elevate IDP's increasing role in markets as change-agent and proponent in donor-funded consultancy amongst Asian regions.

IDP Consult will operate under the name **Lahmeyer IDP Consult** and will coordinate its services closely with Lahmeyer International. The President of the company Dieter Ertle will continue to manage the business. On July 3, 2012, the new partnership will be formally launched in Bridge Center, Pasig City. The event will convene together Lahmeyer and IDP directors, key consultants and other representatives from various clients, business partners, and foreign agencies.

no more
hurried calls

Yes, Pat I'm on my way. Traffic's bad all day. Yes, yes. No worries, I sent it today. K. K. Gotta go. Sige na bro, mahal na ang tawag na 'to!

Across the NATION

P-Noy help sought for missing lawyer

VOLUNTEERS walk in mud to plant mangroves in Barangay San Lorenzo, Masbate, in a campaign to restore mangrove areas in Quezon that was joined by at least 50,000 people.

DINALUPIHAN, Bataan —The 200-member Ang Iglesia Metodista sa Pilipinas (AIM-Pilipinas), a Methodist church denomination, is asking President Aquino to order the police and other agencies to speed up the search for missing Bataan lawyer Joe Frank Zuñiga, who has been missing since June 20.

Zuñiga's disappearance was declared by AIM-Pilipinas' General Laion bishops in a Friday conference in Barangay Luacan here, said Obispo Lorenzo Tangonan, AIM-Pilipinas national bishop.

Tangonan said church leaders were drafting a letter to the President to urge quick action on the case of Zuñiga, elder brother of former Orani Mayor Jerry Zuñiga.

"Zuñiga had been the pillar of AIM-Pilipinas during its early stage of struggle to declare independence from the mother church," he said.

Zuñiga has been an active member of Pinoring Iglesi ng Capitol Methodist Church in Balanga City and is AIM-Pilipinas president and chair of the board of trustees.

Zuñiga, 54, was last seen on June 20 in Mariveles, where he proceeded after meeting with officials of Oriental Corporation at Subic Bay Freeport.

On June 21, Zuñiga's red Honda Civic sedan was found abandoned near a dike in Bataan town in Zambales. Forensic investigators said only his mobile telephone was missing from his belongings. He

ZUÑIGA

laptop was still in his car.

The Bataan chapter of the integrated the of the Philippine Bar (IBP) had passed a resolution supporting alarm over the lawyer's disappearance. The IBP also said that it planned to raise reward money to help in the search for Zuñiga.

Chai Zuñiga, wife of the missing lawyer, has appealed for information that may shed light on her husband's disappearance.

So far, no good lead has turned up in the investigation on the disappearance, said Senior Supt. Rudy Lucnilo, chief of the regional police's Criminal Investigation and Detection Group.

"The status is still missing. There is no confirmation that he was abducted," Lucnilo said.

Pastor Ador Mirasol, district supervising elder in Bataan and a member of AIM-Pilipinas board of trustees, said he last saw Zuñiga on June 18 during a district assembly in Balanga City.

He recalled that Zuñiga had recently talked of death threats he received. "He didn't give details on motives suspects. He's [relatives]," he said. Greg Bordanian, Inquirer Central Luzon

Mangrove planting tagged 'awe-inspiring'

By Odilo T. Mallari Jr.
Inquirer Southern Luzon

MAUBAN, Quezon—When Teresita Ibite, 68, stepped out of her house in Barangay San Lorenzo here along the coast of Lamon Bay early yesterday, she was greeted by the sight of hundreds of volunteers, each holding mangrove propagules while wading in muddy shores toward a barren mangrove area.

"Thank God our place will now have protection from the sea that has been slowly treating us ever since," Ibite said.

Bowing to a lone mangrove tree standing some 200 meters from the coastline, Ibite said there used to be houses from the shoreline up to that mangrove tree but the neighborhood has been slowly "treating" in the sea since it up.

Mauban, 137 kilometers southeast of Manila, faces the Pacific Ocean.

Residents built a seawall from piles of boulders several years ago to protect the village from further erosion.

"We will take care of the newly planted mangroves because that will save our place from extinction," said Ibite.

The sight of the mass of volunteers—students, soldiers, policemen, nongovernment and civic organizations, government and private employees—planting mangroves were replicated in 161 other villages during the province's 1,066-km coastline.

The undertaking, dubbed as "Quezon's 2 in 1" and initiated by Gov. David Suarez, seeks to plant two million mangroves in just one day to rehabilitate Quezon's coastal areas from long years of natural and man-made destruction.

Suarez, reached by phone, described the mass planting activity as "unbelievable [awe-inspiring]" as it was his first time to see a mass of people working together to protect the environment.

Citing reports from other parts of the province, he said public participation was "easy, very beyond our expectation."

Suarez said more than 3,000 volunteers joined him in planting mangroves in the muddy coastal area of Barangay Catnapay, Real town, in the southern part of the province, his assigned duty.

Manny Calayag, Quezon Environment and Natural Resources Office (Quenro.Envi) community coordinator, said based on reports from different monitoring stations, at least 50,000 people took part in the event.

Quezon, the eighth largest province in the Philippines, has an area of 892,631 hectares or 8,926 square kilometers. Thirty-four of its 42 towns are coastal municipalities—17 along Lamon Bay in the Pacific Ocean, 12 in Tayabas Bay facing the Cibitoc Sea, and five in the Bagay Gulf.

Romulo Bilolo, Quezon fisheries officer in charge, said 1.2 million mangrove propagules from local and other sources were distributed to different planting sites two days before the event.

Calayag, who monitored the event aboard a private helicopter late by a project sponsor, described the morning mass planting activity in northern Quezon as an "inspiring success."

He said some volunteers, particularly those from outside the province, spent the night in their assigned planting areas to start early and "to witness beautiful sunrise" in Quezon's east.

Mayor Joselito Ojeda, of the fishing town of Mulanay, said residents excepted to the battle of the town's river and shoreline to rehabilitate mangrove areas.

Calayag said more mangrove areas in Quezon were destroyed by the wanton cutting of mangroves for fishpond expansion and charcoal production.

The province is home to the 140-ha Dalahican Mangrove Forest, said to be the second most diverse mangrove forest in the world.

Mangrove forest, also known as the "rainforest of the sea," is an important part of the marine ecosystem as the roots of the trees provide shelter for marine life while their fallen leaves become food for fish and other marine animals.

Cutting of mangrove trees is banned by Presidential Decree No. 705 or the Forestry Code of the Philippines and Republic Act No. 8550, otherwise known as the Philippine Fisheries Code.

Deadline to stop Rama bid to be solon July 9

CEBU CITY—Controversial senior manager Anabelle Rama will soon hit city voters face to "feel the pulse" of the voters, ahead of the July 9 deadline for opposition to block her bid for Congress.

Rama, who faces a string of libel cases from former administration Mayor Tomas Osmeña and Amalia Pareses, said she had firmed up her decision to run for a seat in the House of Representatives in the city's north district after her children and husband approved of her plan to plunge into politics.

She said, however, that she wouldn't push through with her plan if her visits to the district's 18 villages showed that the elders have enough support from residents.

"If they don't like me, then I will not push through with my plans to run," said the veteran manager who is known for her public spats with other showbiz personalities.

Rama said she still had time to gauge her acceptability among voters since the deadline for filing of candidacies is in October.

The Star reached Rama for her plan to run when she applied at the Commission on Elections (Comelec) office in the north district to be registered as a voter, which is a prerequisite to running the public office.

Marichel Ilarina, election registrar for the north district, said Rama's application for registration would be discussed by the Cebu City's north district fiscalate. Registration Board and anyone opposing it has until July 9 to formally do so.

The board is expected to convene on July 16.

"Any question on her residency will be referred to Comelec Manila but this may also be referred back to us for investigation," said Ilarina.

Existing laws require applicants for voter registration to be residents of the place where they want to vote for at least six months prior to elections. Candidates are required to be residents of the place where they are seeking public office for at least a year before elections.

Ilarina said his office went over its records and found that Rama had not been registered in Cebu City or in any other part of the country.

Although she is a native of Cebu City, Rama has made Manila her home.

"It is possible that this is the first time she registered. If anyone will claim that she is not qualified [to be registered as voter], the burden of proof will be on the accuser," said Socito.

Although she is a native of Cebu City, Rama has made Manila her home.

"It is possible that this is the first time she registered. If anyone will claim that she is not qualified [to be registered as voter], the burden of proof will be on the accuser," said Socito.

If Rama's plan pushed through, she would face either incumbent Rep. Rachel "Cutie" del Mar or her father, former Rep. Raul del Mar in next year's elections. The Del Mars are undefeated in the district since the 1980s.

Ilarina said if she runs opposed Rama's bid to be a registered voter in the north district, "she could register because our task is just ministerial." Doris C. Bongcac and Edison delos Angeles, Inquirer Visayas

TRAINT manager Anabelle Ramaresting a Quezon City court summons after it beating an libel charges against her.

Hansgrohe tidies up the wash station

The basin mixer as amazing the water with air bubbles and creating a pleasantly soft, voluminous jet.

Hansgrohe is the premium brand for bathroom technology. Showers and shower programs spread enthusiasm and stunning technology delivers of numerous awards throughout the world. The brand's products stand for modern technologies, innovative design and a supreme level of functional quality. The success of the brand as a market leader in the shower segment was one of the leading manufacturers of fixtures. With inventions such as the shower tool and pullable spray hoses, the Quick Clean function, the EcoPower or the EcoStat technology, Hansgrohe is regarded as one of the leading innovators in the international sanitation industry.

August plebiscite set for Isabela town to be city

ILAGAN, Isabela—A new law granting this town city status will be up for ratification in an Aug. 11 plebiscite, according to Ilagan Mayor Josemar Inton Jr.

On June 21, President Aquino signed into law Republic Act No. 10169 which converts the municipality into a component city.

The Commission on Elections will conduct and supervise the plebiscite.

The Ilagan city bond law states that the town's concurrent officials "shall continue to serve in their posts and functions until such time that a new election is held and the duly elected officials shall have already qualified and assumed their offices."

Ilaga said residents should not fear the economic implications of a city status, citing a provision of the law that stressed that no increase in local taxes would be imposed by the city within five years from becoming a city.

"It is high time for us to embrace this status. We need not be left behind by our neighboring towns such as Cauayan City and Santiago City," said lawyer Jonathan Ortenthal.

The measure was sponsored by Isabela Rep. Rodolfo Mamo Jr., who said that Ilagan could become more resources "for improvement and infrastructure projects for the 93 barangays" by being a city. Filemon Munoz Jr., Inquirer Northern Luzon

Sandiganbayan junks graft charges vs Ampatuan Jr.

By Jaime Laude
Inquirer Mindanao

COTABATO CITY—The Sandiganbayan has dismissed graft charges against Andal Ampatuan Jr., son of former Maguindanao Governor Andal Ampatuan Sr., in connection with the alleged misuse of P3.2 million in public funds in 2007.

The anti-graft court's Fifth Division granted Ampatuan Jr.'s motion to dismiss the case filed by the Office of the Special Prosecutor (OSP) on the ground of lack of probable cause.

The court said the OSP failed to show that Ampatuan Jr. had conspired with his father in the alleged misuse of the funds.

Ampatuan Jr. was charged with violation of Section 3 (e) of Republic Act No. 3019 or the Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act.

The court said the OSP failed to show that Ampatuan Jr. had conspired with his father in the alleged misuse of the funds.

Ampatuan Jr. was charged with violation of Section 3 (e) of Republic Act No. 3019 or the Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act.

LONELY OUTPOST
These bunkers house the Philippine outfit based on Northeast Cay, home to Kalayaan in Pareia Island. But where's the lighthouse? AFP PHOTO/ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES

'We have to defend it...'

From page A1

shore, shouting to Kyodo News the makeshift bed room is embedding the rest.

"We don't sleep inside. But don't sweat if we can help it. But when it rains, we have no choice."

'Sovereignty patrol'

Second Thomas Shoal is part of a group of islets, shoals, reefs and seas known together as the Spratly Islands. Rich in oil and mineral resources, the islands are claimed in whole or in part by the Philippines, Brunei, China, Malaysia, Taiwan and Vietnam.

Since the 1970s, the Philippines has garrisoned five islets, two reefs and two reefs in the Spratly chain.

Dubbed as a "sovereignty patrol," a World War II landing ship of the Philippine Navy made a 10-day trip recently to all nine military outposts, showing how the Philippine military is barely equipped to maintain a presence in the Spratlys.

At Second Thomas Shoal, Philippine soldiers patrol the area using an outrigger they made out of a broken door on the grounded ship, a bamboo pole and two plastic containers.

The submerged shoal is the closest structure to Mischief Reef, about 200 kilometers off Palawan province. China occupied Mischief Reef in 1995 and later fortified it into a "shelter."

Reactive defense posture

Indeed, a military officer who spoke on condition of anonymity told Kyodo News that the Philippines' defense needs are not sufficient for the military to implement its missions.

"With these realities," he said, "our defense posture at [the Spratlys] remains to be reactive or developing situations."

Traveling at 7 knots to 8 knots, the 100-year-old Navy ship that leads a group of visitors around the nine military outposts is one of only two vessels assigned to ferry soldiers, food supplies and medication materials to the fledgling fingerlings of Philippine territory in the Spratlys.

Military base in Spratlys

Another naval landing ship is sailing away off Thitu Island, where it was aground in mid-2008 while delivering construction materials to repair the crumbling local airstrip.

With a total area of approximately 37 hectares, Thitu, known locally as Pag-asa, is the biggest and the most habitable among the Philippine-claimed islands. It serves as headquarters of the Philippine military in the Spratlys.

Thitu has no place of what, only a makeshift pavilion made of more than a dozen plastic drums.

Life in the Spratlys

Except for the outpost at Second Thomas Shoal, all the military installations have concrete watchtowers that soldiers call home for four to six months—depending on the weather and availability of personnel.

Soldiers use binoculars to scan the sea. Intruders are identified and reported to the military's Western Command in Palawan province through a two-way radio. A connector cable keeps the radio of soldiers informed of news on the mainland.

The Philippines' mobile phone service does not reach the Spratlys. So, one Philippine-manned island uses a Vietnamese garrison, one can pick up Vietnamese mobile phone signals.

Each Philippine detachment in the Spratlys is equipped with a TV monitor and a DVD player. A portable generator supplies the electricity. Every 24 hour hours per day.

Only Thitu has its own fresh water source. Other detachments rely on rainfall for fresh water.

Book fishing has also become a favorite pastime for the soldiers. Their catches are cooked and dried to take home. Some soldiers paint chickens. Another soldier relishes every time carving canes out of driftwood.

Naval training center

Soldiers say Pentagon has turned Southwest Cay into a "naval training center" over the years with more than a dozen windmills, concrete buildings and a lighthouse.

The cay, which used to be under the control of the Philippines, lights up at dusk like "a small city." A Chinese frigate is always in the vicinity and visible from the Philippine-claimed Southwest Cay.

In contrast, Northeast Cay, known locally as Parola, which is Filipino for "lighthouse," has no lighthouse. Some of the structures have badly worn down.

Soldiers said distressed Filipino fishermen often seek refuge in Northeast Cay's Southwest Cay, according to the Philippines' Pareja Island. The Philippines' Southwest Cay is 2.82 km north of Vietnam's Southwest Cay. At low tide, the islets are almost connected.

Fortified claims

Vietnam is not the only claimant that has "made improved infrastructure" in the Spratlys, the military said. China and Malaysia have also fortified their respective claims.

Chinese vessels are regularly sighted sailing closer to Philippine-claimed waters, like the Reed Bank and Sabina Shoal, a rich fishing ground that many believe contains significant oil and gas deposits.

China said the Philippines injured off again last April when a Philippine patrol vessel caught Chinese fishing boats at Scarborough Shoal, north of the Spratlys, resulting in a standoff that lasted for two months.

Questionable ability

The frequent presence of Chinese warships in Philippine-claimed waters calls into question the ability of the Philippine Navy to effectively control the country's territorial borders.

In the mid-1990s, the Philippines embarked on a modernization program to upgrade its obsolete weaponry and aging planes and ships.

Without years later, the Philippine military's territorial defense capabilities remain pitiful.

"After six months in service on the principle of [military] modernization, we are now paying the price for the neglect of our armed forces," senior retired Philippine Air Force Chief Rodolfo Paredes in his column earlier Philippine Daily Inquirer.

IN THE KNOW

THE BRP SIERRA Madre, also known as LT 57, is the Philippine Navy's landing ship tank that serves as a military outpost in the Spratly Islands.

Commissioned in the United States in 1944 as the USS Harnet County, the landing ship tank was first used during World War II, and it participated in the assault on and occupation of Okinawa from Japan in 1945. It was decommissioned in 1996.

The vessel was recommissioned in August 1960 for service in the Vietnam War. It was decommissioned again in October 1979 in Guam.

In April 1976, the Philippine government acquired the LT 57 under Washington's Foreign Military Sales program. The vessel was renamed BRP Sierra Madre and it joined the Philippine Navy in 1979.

The 95-meter Sierra Madre has a displacement of 1,625 tons. Its maximum speed is 12 knots.

The vessel's original armament were two Bofors gun mounts with Mk 51 directors, four single 40mm gun mounts, and 11 single 20mm gun mounts.

In 1999, the vessel was stationed at Ayungin Shoal (Second Thomas Shoal), part of the disputed islands in the Spratly archipelago in the South China Sea being claimed by the Philippines.

China protested the ship's grounding and asked that the Philippines to have the ship, or at least that the steel was part of Chinese territory. The Philippines, however, stood its ground and denied the request.

Source: Jaquino Archives, http://www.navsource.org/archives/10/36/360021.htm

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jamming later. sama ka?

we're going na. see u there?

dto na kami. wer u na?

dude, bkt di ka nagrereply?

sori dude. cge sama ako. ok, see u bro. on the way na. be there in 10 mins. ktnxbye.

KNOCK, KNOCK
A Filipino sailor closes the deck of the derelict ship on Second Thomas Shoal, known locally as Ayungin Shoal, which is controlled by the Philippines. The soldiers patrol the area using an outrigger made out of a broken door and two plastic containers. AFP PHOTO

Sunday SPORTS

E-mail us: sportsdesk@inquirer.net
Mobile: www.inquirer.net/sports

Editor: Teddyboy S. Molmisa
Assistant Editor: Francis T. J. Ochoa

TONY Lascuña hoists the trophy beside his daughter

Lascuña captures ICTSI-Southwoods crown

By Manny R. Castillo

CARMONA, Cavite—Antonio Lascuña closed out with a bogey-free five-under par 67 and won the ICTSI-Southwoods Championship by two shots over Angelo Que at the couples' Weaco course here.

Lascuña posted seven birdies against a double bogey to finish at 14-under 274 and successfully harness the hottest players in the circuit. The victory was worth P450,000 out of the total pot of P2.3 million.

Que was charging hard, following up a course record 64 on Friday with a 68, but still fell short, his first two rounds of 74 and 71 putting him in too deep a hole. Still, the three-time Asian Tour winner bankrolled P320,000.

Que, who won the Philippine Open in 2008, came within a shot after birdieing the 11th, before Lascuña answered the move in the next hole to right the ship and have a buffer for the day's second rain delay.

Play resumed with Lascuña scoring routine pars in the next four holes, while Que had a critical bogey on the 13th to drop out of the fight.

Salvador, who either led or held a piece of the lead after the first three rounds, witnessed a 71-and-finished-tied with a 280 rally stop in Miguel Tabuena and Michael Tolosa shared fourth.

The final scores

ITS—A. Lascuña 68-68-70-67—274; A. Que 64-71-68-73—276; C. Salvador 69-71-71-71—282; M. Tabuena 70-73-70-69—282; M. Tolosa 71-71-71-71—284; R. Fernandez 68-74-70-72—284; C. Rosales 69-73-73-73—288; A. Salazar 71-69-75-73—288; C. Galang 71-67-77-73—288; R. Fernandez 72-71-73-73—289; J. Ramos 71-73-73-72—289; M. Mendoza 71-73-73-72—289; J. Ramos 71-73-73-72—289; C. Rosales 69-73-73-73—288; A. Salazar 71-69-75-73—288; C. Galang 71-67-77-73—288; R. Fernandez 72-71-73-73—289; J. Ramos 71-73-73-72—289; M. Mendoza 71-73-73-72—289

Roger, Novak survive scares

ROGER Federer celebrates his fine, set escape in the third round. AP

WIMBLEDON, England—When Roger Federer found himself down two sets to love and staring at an early exit from Wimbledon, the crowd at Centre Court found themselves thinking back to the stunning upset that took place there a day earlier and wondering whether they were witnessing a repeat.

Federer was thinking back, too, but his flashbacks had nothing to do with Rafael Nadal.

"Having been there so often, there are ups to lose, knowing how to handle the situation (was key)," Federer said.

He proved that once again, as the six-time Wimbledon champion overcame a near-exit loss for the eighth time in his career, beating Julien Benneteau of France, 4-6, 6-7 (3), 6-2, 7-6 (6), 6-1, during in the third round. With the comeback, he narrowly avoided following Nadal out of Wimbledon after the Spanish two-time winner was stunned by 180th-ranked Lukas Rosol a day earlier.

"Mentally he's a rock. He's never one down and he doesn't throw anything," said Benneteau.

Novak Djokovic also fell behind against someone he was expected to beat easily. The luck ended the first set, getting broken at love by No. 28 Radek Stepanek, Nenad's Davis Cup teammate for the Czech Republic.

But Djokovic turned things around, breaking Stepanek to begin each of the next three sets for a 4-6, 6-2, 6-2, 6-2 victory that moved him closer to a semifinal showdown against Federer.

Donaire keen on KO vs Mathebula

By Marc Anthony Reyes

NORTH Donaire Jr. was looking for a knockout win in his last two ring fights, but that one decisive punch never came.

Whether Donaire will again abandon his jabs in favor of the explosive stoppage will be known when the Filipino Flash battles South African Jeffrey Mathebula for the vacated world super bantamweight title on July 7 (July 8 in Manila) at the Home Depot Center in Carson, California.

After sensational knockout victories over Vicente Saucedo and Fernando Montiel last year, fans are surely looking for a spectacle from these seven-eight weight boxer.

"I wanted to hit him as hard as I could every time," said Donaire of Wilfredo Vazquez Jr., his last opponent whom he downed in 9th but failed to finish off for a split decision win, in a unanimous call. "The kid didn't want to open up and I needed him to open up. So I put my fists in front of him because all he wanted to do was throw a jab."

Donaire (28-1-0) with 18 knockouts said he wanted to secure a knockout win and maybe finally counter giant IV meanwhile that he deserves to be a pay-per-view attraction.

Appleton wins 9-ball title

ENGLAND'S Darren Appleton scored back Chino's Lee Downs, 13-12, Thursday to win the 2011 World 9-Ball Championship at the Al Sadd Sports Club in Doha, Qatar.

Appleton, the 2005 world 10-ball champion, seemed to set 11-3 lead, then suddenly lost his touch and allowed Lee to come to within 11-6 in the afternoon break final.

The former snooker star rounded the ball, 12-6, but Lee refused to die and eventually managed to tie.

Reeling his focus, Appleton jumped the cue ball over the blocking ball and holed the 2-ball in the side pocket en route to a clear out, the title and the $40,000 that goes with it.

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SMART LIVE MORE

Apl METRO
Editor Joseph Voltaire L. Contreras

Boy killed with dog he tried to save

JOHN Niño Solomon, 13, was worried that his dog, which ran toward the middle of Edsa, might be hit by cars on the highway. He went after his pet but both boy and dog died after being run over by a southbound Mabuhay bus (TTC 346) before dawn on Saturday in Caloocan City. Traffic investigator Christian Mendiola said the out-of-school youth, a resident of Del Garson Road, Barangay Bagumbong, was killed while trying to save his pet. Witnesses said the driver and conductor got off to help the victims, but were back in the bus and drove off after seeing the boy's enraged uncle approaching. **Julie Aurelio**

UP campus a busy bird haven

115 species spotted this year, says avian enthusiast

PHOTOS BY JEROME ASHLEY SUAREZ

By Julie M. Aurelio

PHILOSOPHY professor Jerry de Villa cherishes a photo of an injured bird that landed near his car three months ago on the University of the Philippines campus in Diliman, Quezon City.

The poor bird looked helpless as baby crested drongos—so named because they flying straight into a glass window of one of the buildings. The reflection tricked it into thinking that it was heading for a branch of a tree.

Dr. Villa, a bird enthusiast and nature lover, picked up the bird and brought it home. "I knew we'd have other ins incase healed, though it left behind brief poop in my car," he said with a smile.

"Many birds have died here when they slam into windows, thinking that the trees mirrored on the glass) are real," he said in a forum in UP last week, giving an update on the various species that had found either a home or a way station in the 493-hectare state university.

That birds on the campus fall for optical illusions, like plants facing an traffic barricade, may be a telling indication of how UP Diliman has become a rest—and busy—avian sanctuary.

The increase in 2006 reported that up to 92 bird species, endemic and migratory, had been spotted in UP (and also in nearby Ateneo de Manila University). When Arnulfo Illa Canceran named the figure on sightings made by the Wild Bird Club of the Philippines (WBCP).

Dr. Villa, a WBCP member, said he had photographed the species recorded at that time. His shots can be viewed on the Philippine Bird Photography Forum website.

"This year, around 115 species have been seen on campus," he told the bounce in an interview. Of this number, 39 are endemic or can be found only in the Philippines, he added.

"They can be found everywhere where there are trees," he said. The only ground-level one Dr. Villa noticed, for example, was found near the Ninga Museum.

On a good day at the new bird component of the high school department of UP Integrated School (UPIS), anyone with the patience and eye for winged delights can spot the usual birds, the Philippine pygmy woodpecker and flowerpeckers, or the red-bellied flameback. They usually hang around the parking lot, he said.

Other species like the Philippine serpent eagle and water birds like the yellow bittern and cinnamon bittern have also been sighted around the Gerdeza Ross residential complex on the north side of the campus.

"Species are constantly coming in there from October to April," Dr. Villa said.

The UP Lagoon also hosts one of the richest, the pygmy woodpeckers, the low-lined white eye, the spotted wood kingfisher and the serpent eagle, he recalled.

Owls were also heard hooting at the Physics building. The Philippine eagle owl in particular, was sometimes seen along the Ilera Wetland park resting across the Academic Oval, he added.

According to Dr. Villa, the UPIS compound on Initiatives Avenue is UP's last remaining "tree corridor" that connects the campus to a strip of green terrain that goes all the way to the Sierra Madre mountain range. The corridor stretches across Bahara, La Mesa dam and Ipo watershed, before reaching the Sierra Madres.

Birds feed at trees in areas of their foliage where they have found and nesting grounds, he said.

Sadly, bird sightings—a rarity amid Metro Manila's expanding urban sprawl—are often treated on UP campus, Dr. Villa noted.

They seem to be more absorbed tinkering with their high-tech gadgets (their "prize" encounters perhaps limited to the popular Angry Birds computer game or the social networking site Twitter) than looking up once in a while to enjoy Nature's spectacles, he said in jest.

"This is why we should walk the ground and see our bird's wealth up close. If we see these treasures, we become bound to the land. We learn to value it and fight for it," he said.

Dr. Villa recalled once spotting a small black-faced shrike in the trees during the walkway between Palma Hall and a canteen. The smallness, he said, just passed him by, not even bothering to stop and ask what had caught his attention even as he started taking photos of the bird.

"It came only when I came nearer or bird knew that some students finally got curious and asked me what it was," he said.

Dr. Villa used the forum to appeal for the preservation of the tree corridor as the UPIS grounds less is disappears and gives way to construction projects in the future.

"We have to take care of the connections that are left. We should celebrate the treasures that we still have," he said.

'Boundary' era ends for bus drivers in NCR

DOLE enforces new pay system today

By Philip C. Tubeza

IF MAY be considered the end of an era in Metro Manila roads, one that is partly blamed for the undisciplined behavior of drivers in the public transport sector.

The government will begin implementing today a "new-ism" system that would set fixed wages for bus drivers and conductors in the National Capital Region (NCR).

It will do away with the so-called "boundary" system wherein a driver's earnings for the day depend on what's left after giving a specific amount to the owner of the vehicle he drives. It is often seen as a factor why bus (and also jeepney) drivers commit traffic violations—from overspeeding to overstaying at stops—in order to get as many passengers as they can.

Secretary Rosalinda Baldoz of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) on Saturday said she had no intention of deferring the enforcement of Department Order 118-12, which would cover more than 20,000 bus drivers and conductors.

For passengers' safety

"We have the political will and the support of our tripartite partners, as well as of the four transport sectors, to fully and effectively implement the order starting July 1 because this is for the health and welfare of bus drivers and conductors and for the safety and safety of bus passengers," Baldoz said in a statement.

"This is for the public good and interest. We have already moved past the discussion stage about this new system for the last six months. We are now in the implementation mode," she added.

The order calls for the adoption of a "part-fixed, part-performance-based compensation scheme" for bus drivers and conductors.

Inspections set

The fixed payment scheme sets a minimum wage, while the performance-based payment will be on a mix mutually agreed upon by the operators and the workers.

"On the first week of July, a composite team headed by DOLE-NCR ... will begin the inspection of the workplaces of the 130 bus companies to determine their level of compliance," Baldoz said.

She said the 130 bus companies have a combined total of 3,238 bus units involving 18,476 bus drivers and a similar number of conductors.

Baldoz said three companies were under assessed and audited and offered technical assistance to enable them to comply with the order's provisions.

"We have even provided them templates of employment agreements and taught them the modes and methods of computing the fixed part and the performance-based part of the compensation," she said.

'No diminution'

Under the new wage system, the drivers and conductors "should not earn lower than what they presently receive under the straight commission basis. This is following the condition/salary principle," she explained.

The order also calls for company safety and health programs, including measures against smoking, drugs, and the spread of AIDS, as well as antisexual harassment and disaster risk reduction programs.

QC barangay chiefs can now suspend classes

ACCORDING to the bad weather would mean no classes in Quezon City? In the absence of a typhoon signal, you can now ask your barangay officials.

The Quezon City government has authorized village officials to decide whether to suspend classes in their respective communities due to heavy rains or flash floods.

This is "in response to the urgent need to coordinate efforts in the local-level suspension of classes in the absence of a typhoon signal," Vice Mayor Joy Belmonte said yesterday.

The chair, as head of the Barangay Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council, is now empowered to cancel or suspend classes not later than 4 a.m. for morning classes and 10:30 a.m. for afternoon classes, Belmonte said in a memorandum. **Julie Aurelio**

THE [SUCCESS] process of Philhealth to bear is four months late and this is unfair to the OFWs and their dependents, losing dental health and hospitalization. ... The backlog is over an [illegible] ...—Loreto Serrano, LRS-T Recruitment Solutions Inc.

GLOBAL Pinoy

Gilda Monica Feria

This section is dedicated to Filipinos overseas toiling on land and at sea, in factories, in construction sites and in the homes of the world to secure a better life for their families. These are their stories.

Honesty crusade excites OFWs

By Tess Maloso
General Mallingo Bureau

TORONTO—"It now is fashionable in rocking the Philippines." This was the message announced to audiences in the United States and Canada during a series of activities launched by Gawad Kalinga to celebrate our independence day.

It is the revolution to regain our honor as a nation by demanding a high standard of honesty from our top leaders and citizens unseen in the Philippines before.

While the 1986 People Power was a peaceful struggle to break free from the tyranny of absolute power, the new "people business revolution" staged by President Aquino is about liberation from the grip of endemic corruption and the cycle of poverty that drove many of the most educated and skilled Filipinos to seek their fortune abroad.

Mislabeled people

The focus was about the impeachment whenever I went.

The unprecedented conviction of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the first in our history and unheard of in any democratic country in recent years, is a loud declaration to the world that many Filipinos will no longer accept passively the label that we are the "corrupt men of Asia."

By simply making honesty the highest measure of leadership and good citizenship, we can gain global trust, spurs the floodgates of investments and rebrand the Philippines as the new trusted economy of Asia.

The Filipino brand will mean top quality ethical products, good business climate, unmatched hospitality, happy and hardworking people and strong moral governance.

Business responds positively to transparency and accountability.

After only two years with an honest President, the Philippine stock market is the most stable in the region. Our 6.4 gross domestic product (GDP) in the last quarter was second only to China. We are now one notch below investment grade after several credit upgrades. While the dark clouds of recession and depression hover over Europe and America, the light is shining through our emerging landscape.

Definitely, the price is getting greater and the sky is becoming limitless to the Philippines.

This radical optimism swept in the "homeland" after years of setbacks and self-loathing, pervaded the air of rejoicing as the successful Grand Rallies (GR) (Hope Ball (June 2) and the Independence Day parade (June 3)) at the Big Apple where GK volunteers formed the first human counterbalancing day at the Madison Avenue.

In the eyes of overseas Pinoys, it's a revolution to regain our honor in the international community

Our greatest challenge is for more Filipinos to learn that integrity a more powerful than money.

Capacity for greatness

"The result of the impeachment conducted through a true democratic process gained for us the admiration of the global community. Mr. Aquino's visit to meet President Barack Obama caused excitement in DC. This was the message to us of Philippine Ambassador to the United States Jose Cuisia in our public conversation. Ambassador himself could not contain his amazement at the size of the crowd at the GK Hope Ball, many of them doctors and nurses, more eager to help the country now than there is clear proof of decency in governance.

Chicago: Tuesday the Canadian Ambassador to the Philippines and a GK volunteer, was no less enthusiastic in declaring his optimism the following week at the GK Global Summit in Toronto. "I have great affection for the Philippines and a big admirer for GK—they bring out the best in people."

Undervalued country

At the round table meeting by organized with a dozen Canadian corporations and investors—Investment Bank, BlackRock (HBK), Bombardier, SNC-Lavalin, York University—the mood was upbeat from the top executives present. Their comments were mostly encouraging.

"The Philippines is the undervalued economy of Asia ..."

"The effort of the current Philippine government to curb corruption will attract more Canadian investors ..."

"Filipinos are outstanding citizens in Canada. They are our biggest immigrants in the last two years, surpassing the Chinese and Indians ..."

"Now Canada has to compete with other countries to attract the most qualified Filipinos to come ..."

But in fact Canada lost the brightest and the best from the Philippines are being harassed by the immigration that did not spend to raise and educate them. It would be wise that they invest not just in business in the Philippines but also in the education of our poor (I they see PH. quiros as their first choice for future immigrants.

A season of hope

This is my first visit to North America to really half a century where the mood everywhere I went, both among Filipinos and foreigners alike, is positive and hopeful about our often battered country, not only by natural calamities but by bashing from Filipinos themselves.

It is an astounding paradigm shift to those raised with a colonial mentality like me to hear that our country is becoming an attractive proposition for visitors and investors due to the rise of Asian economies and the slowdown in the West.

Finding the best Filipino

When I first landed in California in 1966 as a 16-year-old American Field Service scholar I was totally captivated by the technicolor world of Hollywood and the celluloid of the Beach Boys. I came back a year later to study in Ateneo as an "antiteq" hiding my Bongga accent—and my pain, as a year boy from a public high school in Rancho Cruz—with an exaggerated American swing to show the "cool" in the company that I spoke better English than them. One year in America helped erase my insecurity from a lack of pedigree in the premier university of the Philippines.

I guess I was an addict to copying American or imported fads. Media-driven Philippines never seemed good enough.

Over the years it has always been for me, and for many OF. spices like me, that everything was right in America and everything was wrong in the Philippines. We exaggerated our failures, our politicians' corrupt ethics were bigger (cocky to Bill Street), our poor were lazy (adding insult to injury to those who were denied justice and opportunity), our traffic was crazy (Let it worse!) ... nobody blundered us to see many good qualities and potential to be a great nation.

Sadly, we simply grew up on ourselves early, hated ourselves unreasonably, accepted poverty as our fate and placed land politics as the only game in town.

Sometime I understood why people left and think skepticism over my lack of patriotism for staying when I regained my soul as a Filipino and my decision not to give up on our country because of Gawad Kalinga, finding poverty in the Philippines was a pipe dream for me in the beginning of my nation-building journey.

Happy to be home

These last ten days however, the mood was refreshingly different, although it had been slowly changing in the last two years for a growing number of believers in our endeavor for optimism about the motherland.

"I realized I am a Filipino born and raised in America ..." and GK-USA their Terry Olsen, acknowledging his deep connection to his roots "and my business careers here mean nothing if I cannot help the Philippines in nation-building."

"The Filipino does well here and given back to those he left behind ..." GK Canada chair Fr. Jay Pain spoke about the success and generosity of Filipinos in his Edmonton mass where he donated GK village in his hometown in Donsan, Iloilo.

"There is no life for me here now. The United States has been good to me but my children are gone, my home is empty. I have just sold my clinic and plan to live in the Philippines where there's a bigger purpose waiting for me," said pediatrician Linda Pamidas of Fort Arthur, Texas.

"I went to sell my house in Staten Island so I can do more medical missions in the Philippines and help out in the Extreme Poor," Thea's home nurse Jacinto Jose Dr. Roy Buendia, another successful doctor still practicing in Pennsylvania, as he shared his new career resource with us over blueberry pie dessert that he baked in his plush home.

"The you have a place for a young investment banker in your organization to handle the social venture capital fund for GBCH (Center for Social Innovation)?" was a straightforward question from a 23-year old senior Harvard graduate now working for Morgan Stanley in Wall Street, who followed me to Middletown Avenue after the parade.

Even my best friend from college who has a comfortable life in Canada was proud to tell me over steak and beer dinner at his clubhouse that he and his wife are "happy to be Filipino agents" as their citizens after 25 years in Ontario working as a vice president of a Canadian bank and raising two kids who have left their big nest in Mississauga to find their place in the world.

Happy to be honest

So much to take in and process and so much to do with so little time for a senior citizen like me.

But right now I just want to enjoy this awesome moment of inspiration.

Many fears are rattled but do not fully comprehend the mind-blowing outcome of the impeachment that they watched religiously over The Filipino Channel and the new image that the world is beginning to see—that the Philippines can be the land of the bravest, of trustworthy lawyers and judges who cannot be bought, of politicians who will follow their conscience and businessmen who pay the right taxes and have a big heart for just causes.

The possibility of ending corruption in a big semantics for Filipinos attuned to easier homes and those who are here not to leave.

This will not remain merely wishful thinking if we don't allow the cynics and five critics to have the last say. It will come through perseverance from all of us to purge corruption out of our system, beginning with a simple resolve from us men—who are generally more dishonest than women—not to cheat on our spouses or on our tax declarations. But it is a world-beginning beginning that calls for great rejoicing and dancing in the streets.

GAWAD Kalinga volunteers in New York formed the first human marching Philippine flag during a parade on Madison Avenue on June 3.

Families Beyond Borders: Cefam at 25

By Agnes Prieto
Contributor

If love lives, the Filipino family will not only survive, but also thrive beyond borders

IN 1987, three doctors—Barbara Ruben Tiongson, Ted Gonzalez and Nilo Tayabas—established the Center for Family Ministries (Cefam) to nurture Filipino families.

Cefam, based at the Loyola School of Theology, would become a by-word in the care you're making for personal, emotional health among families in the Philippines and Southeast Asia. They also offer diploma courses on various aspects of family ministry. Today, with labor migration getting strong, the center reaches out to Filipino families all over the world.

Many overseas workers have sought counsel and solace in Cefam, says Fr. Ted, its program director. Counselor Herald Cruz has conducted workshops and done extensive counseling in Thailand, Singapore, Hong Kong and England.

Observes Cruz: "The set begins to the marriage, couples grow apart with physical separation, infidelity sets in, miscommunication happens."

"Can the marriage handle the separation? Will previous unresolved issues dialogue in the marriage?" he poses.

His advice: "Communicate ... Use available technology and keep in touch with the kids in a way that is consistent, affirming and loving."

Across distances, hope beams brightly. Fr. Ted tells a moving story about a woman weighed down by so much debt that she had to work abroad as a domestic. Her husband, too, went to work in another country. In the process marriage another mom, as he so badly longed may on. The engineered many long-distance marriage!

The WORLD

Editor Lawrence B. Quncio

Syrian groups say 190 dead in bloodiest 24 hrs

Rebel fighters say they seized 2 Assad generals

BEIRUT—Syria's opposition on Friday reported the deadliest 24-hour period so far in the uprising against President Bashar Assad and said rebel fighters had seized two Syrian generals, one of them the highest-ranking officer to fall into insurgent hands.

Accounts of the intensified mayhem in Syria came as Kofi Annan, the special envoy for the United Nations and the Arab League, prepared to convene a high-level meeting in Geneva that includes the five permanent members of the Security Council to muster his shrinking Syrian peace plan from total irrelevance.

Annan told Reuters television that he was optimistic that the meeting, to be held Saturday, would be a success. But Russia, the Syrian government's most important backer, suggested that Annan's hope for securing a political transition in Syria had serious problems, raising questions about what the Geneva meeting could accomplish.

In a statement, the Russian Foreign Ministry called for new ceasefire mechanisms and the synchronized withdrawal of all armed combatants from Syria's populated hotbs zones. Only then, the statement said, could talks begin "which would allow the Syrians to independently define the agenda and mechanisms of the transition period."

Russia has opposed any proposal that would impose a political solution on the Syrians from the outside.

The Foreign Ministry statement was issued shortly before Foreign Minister Sergey V. Lavrov of Russia met in St. Petersburg with US Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, who has repeatedly clashed with Lavrov over the Syria crisis and has called on Assad to resign as part of any solution. Both Lavrov and Clinton were planning to attend the Geneva conference, but there was no indication after their three-hour meeting that they had bridged their differences.

Tallies by Syrian opposition groups that track casualties reported Friday that the previous day's death toll had reached 190 from violence scattered in towns and cities throughout the country. The tallies were detailed but could not be confirmed independently.

The largest number was concentrated in the Damascene suburb of Douma, an insurgent enclave about eight miles northwest of the capital, according to reports from both the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a group based in Britain, and the Local Coordination Committees, a Syrian-based group.

A spokesperson for the Syrian Observatory said the death toll Thursday was the worst of any single day this year, with 120 confirmed deaths and dozens more in the deaths of 63 fighters reported but under investigation. The observatory considers a death confirmed when video tape or other documentary evidence identifying the victim is received.

The coordination committees, which use similar methodology but note indepen dently reported 139 civilian deaths on Thursday.

Syria's Al Dunya TV confirmed the reinforcement of deadly violence on Douma.

"The combination operations in Douma are based on a 'surgical approach' and will continue to exterminate all terrorists," the station said.

With half a million residents, most of them members of Syria's Sunni majority, Douma has 80 mosques, and residents marched by Skype said many of them were closed.

"For the first time in Douma's history we don't have Friday prayers," said one activist who identified himself as Abdurrahman Sayid. "People are hiding in the basements and we're afraid mosques might be shelled."

That the two Syrian generals who were reported seized appeared in a rebel video with three masked fighters who ordered them to identify themselves.

One said he was Maj. Gen. Feaq Hebaisch al-Matar, a pilot identified by the rebel video as the highest-ranking officer seized by the insurgency so far.

New York Times News Service

A Japan first: Whistle-blower wins in high court

TOKYO—Japan's Supreme Court has ruled in favor of a whistle-blower for the first time in a case that highlights the harsh measures employers employees have endured in a nation that zealously values loyalty and conformity.

Despite being a good salesman with experience in the United States, Masaharu Hanada, 53, was demoted at Olympus Corp., forced to take multi-monthly tests and ignored by colleagues, in what he alleged was reprisal for raising the issue of supplier complaints.

The ruling—a notice on Saturday from the nation's highest court, dated Thursday, dismissing the appeal by Tokyo-based camera and medical equipment maker Olympus of a 2010 lower court decision. It sealed the victory of the little "salaryman" against a giant of Japan Inc.

"We need a society where honest hardworking people don't lose out," Hanada told The Associated Press. "This is about justice and human rights."

Hanada's story highlights how workers labeled as whistle-blowing are punished in Japan, where some companies like Olympus offer lifetime employment, although they more rarely live customer and part-time workers.

That means employees like Hanada become targets of social harassment designed to silence them or make them quit. Hanada was nearly driven to breakdown during his five-year battle.

Japan is behind some Western nations in preserving whistle-blowers. A law to protect them was enacted only in 2006, and critics say it is inadequate because it does not penalize companies that punish whistle-blowers. To pursue legal action, whistle-blowers can't quit or the law only applies to employees.

Only a handful of whistle-blower has come forward in Japan in the past few decades. When they do, they are treated as outcasts, sometimes being told to sit in closet-sized offices or in some the lesser. Sometimes even their children become victims of discrimination. So oft-harried is the employee who dares to question the company.

Hanada sued Olympus in 2006, saying he was punished for relaying a supplier's complaint that its best employees were being lured away by Olympus. Olympus said he was never demoted, but demoted. *AP*

WORLD BRIEFS

Peter Madoff pleads guilty to fraud, blames brother

NEW YORK—In pleading guilty to criminal charges, Peter Madoff portrayed himself as a victim of a domineering older brother who "reversed night up until an evening in December 2008 when his sibling revealed that his wildly successful investment business was a sham that lost its customers their nearly $20 billion investment. "I was in total shock," Madoff said Friday as he described the confession by his older brother, Bernard. "My world was destroyed. I had nothing. I worked for..." The 66-year-old Madoff, saying he was "deeply ashamed and terribly sorry," spoke angrily about his 74-year-old brother, who is serving a 150-year prison term in the United States after admitting his creation of the largest known Ponzi scheme. He said his brother had made it clear that he would never become a partner in the business where he had worked since 1980, even as he was showered with tens of millions of dollars in salary, bonuses and other financial gifts. He made him the investment business' chief compliance officer. *AP*

Thousands in Tokyo protest restarting of nuke plant

TOKYO—Shouting antinuclear slogans and beating drums, tens of thousands of demonstrators gathered in front of the prime minister's residence on Friday in the largest display yet of public anger at the government's decision to restart a nuclear power plant. The crowd, including women with small children and even in suits coming from work, chanted "No more Fukushimas!" as it filled the broad boulevards near the residence and the national Parliament building, which were cordoned off by the police. Local media estimated the number at between 20,000 and 45,000, which they described as the largest protest in central Tokyo since the 1960s. Protests of any size are rare in Japan, which has long been politically apathetic. However, there has been growing discontent among many Japanese who feel that Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda ignored public concerns about safety this month when he ordered the restarting of the 9% power station in western Japan.

New York Times News Service

Strauss-Kahn and wife separate

PARIS—Dominique Strauss-Kahn, the disgraced former chief of the International Monetary Fund, has separated from his wife, the journalist Anne Sinclair, according to news reports. French tabloids have speculated about affairs on the couple and a possible split for months. "Ms. Sinclair asked Mr. Strauss-Kahn to leave the apartment a month ago," said Laurence Parisot, editor in chief of Closer, a tabloid magazine that on Thursday evening published an article saying the couple had separated. Strauss-Kahn moved to the elegant hotel Lutetia on central Paris just before a friend's place in the residential 16th Arrondissement. Pisani said in a phone interview. Strauss-Kahn was then got with "aggravated procurement in an organized gang"—the legal term for pimping—in March. Police are also investigating allegations that he sexually assaulted a Belgian prostitute at a hotel in Washington in 2040.

New York Times News Service

US court allows religious groups' services in schools

NEW YORK—A federal judge ruled Friday that religious groups cannot be prohibited from using public schools to hold services, rejecting the argument that such use violates the Constitution's requirement to keep Church and state strictly separate. The ruling, by Judge Loretta A. Preska of US District Court in Manhattan, was a major setback for New York City, which has fought for nearly two decades to expel religious groups from the schools. Jordan W. Lorence, a lawyer for the Alliance Defending Freedom, a conservative legal group, said: "The court's order allows churches and other religious groups to meet for worship services in empty school buildings on weekends on the same terms as other groups." In her ruling, Preska found that having religious groups did not violate the free speech clause of the First Amendment. Rather, the city's regulations were problematic because they violated the establishment clause of that amendment, which states: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof."

New York Times News Service

Why are tomatoes so tasteless? Because they're red

By Gina Kolata

PLANT geneticists say they have discovered an answer to a near universal question: Why are tomatoes mostly so tasteless?

Yes, they are often picked green and shipped long distances. Often they are refrigerated, which destroys their flavor and texture. But now researchers have discovered a genetic reason that diminishes a tomato's flavor even if the fruit is picked ripe and unchilled.

The unexpected culprit is a gene mutation that occurred by chance and was discovered by tomato breeders. It was deliberately bred into almost all tomatoes because it conferred an advantage: It made them a uniform luscious scarlet when ripe.

Now, in a paper published in the journal Science, researchers report that the very gene that has been prized by fruit nutrition plays an important role in producing the sugar and aromas that are the essence of a fragrant, flavorful tomato. And those findings provide a road map for plant breeders to make future tasteless, rarely red tomatoes.

"The discovery is one piece of the puzzle about why the modern tomato stinks," said Harry Klee, a tomato researcher at the University of Florida in Gainesville who was not involved in the research. "That mutation has been introduced into almost all modern tomatoes. Now we can say that in trying to make the fruit germlen, they reduced some of the important compounds that are linked to flavor."

The mutation's effect was a surprise, said Jocelyn J. Greenstein of the US Department of Agricultural Research Service, an author of the new paper. He called the widespread adoption of tomatoes that ripen uniformly "a story of unintended consequences."

Breeders stumbled upon the variety about 70 years ago and inadvertently saw its commercial potential. Consumers like tomatoes that are red all over, but ripe tomatoes naturally had a ring of green, yellow or white at the stem end.

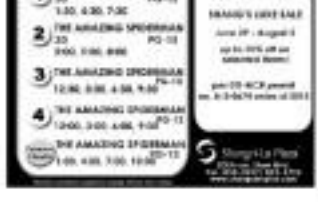
The variety also had an advantage for producers of tomatoes used in tomato sauce or ketchup. Growers harvest this crop all at once, Greenstein said, and "with the uniform ripening gene, it is easier to determine when the tomatoes are ripe."

Then, about 10 years ago, Alan Powell, a plant biochemist at the University of California, Davis, happened on a puzzle that led to the new discovery.

Powell, a lead author of the Science paper, was studying sweet genes like colleagues had put those genes into tomato plants, which are, she said, the lab rats of the plant world. To Powell's surprise, tomatoes with the sweet genes turned the dark green of a sweet pepper before they ripened, rather than the marigold pale green of most tomatoes.

The reasons the tomatoes had been light green was that they had the uniform ripening mutation, which set up a sort of chain reaction. The mutation not only made tomatoes turn uniformly green and then red, but it also disabled genes involved in ripening. Among them are genes that allow the fruit to make some of its own sugar instead of getting it only from leaves. Oils are increase the amount of carotenoids, which give tomatoes a full red color and, it is thought, are involved in giving them their flavor.

New York Times News Service



PUBLIC NOTICE

SMART Communications Inc., will deactivate its Plug N Talk service starting July 31, 2012.

To obtain more information about the deactivation of the service, all current users may call the SMART Hotline at *888 or email us via our Customer Care website http://www.smart.com.ph/connect or http://smart.com.ph/helpticket.

Thank you for your patronage.

Perry Bayani, SMART Sales and Customer Service Group Head and Gio Bacarezo, SMART Telco Plus Product Management Department Head (3rd and 4th from left) with other winners of the 2012 Asia Communication Awards.

WINNING INNOVATIONS: SMART

Triumphs in Telco Awards

The country makes another mark in the telecom world with SMART's award-winning entries in the 2012 Asia Communication Awards that was recently held in Singapore, winning a total of three major international awards, including top honors as Operator of the Year, beating Singapore's Singtel and Townsub, and Australia's Telstra Global.

SMART, being the only Philippine telco recognized at the prestigious awards program, won the Best Emerging Market Initiative category for the Secured Health Information Network and Exchange (SHINE) program. On the other hand, SMART's Netphone won the Innovation Award category. The Netphone has consistently been receiving several accolades as the world's first smartphone backed by an operator-managed system.

SMART then has gone beyond being just a network provider, with groundbreaking innovations and technological advances, SMART lets their subscribers truly Live More.

Also making it to the list of finalists were the Jiwan Merchandising Program; the Jump Experience Center, the country's first multi-dimensional experience center; and SmartCares, the country's first customer care channel on social media. SMART's President and CEO, Napoleon L. Nazareno, was also nominated for CEO of the Year.

Perry Bayani and Gio Bacarezo of SMART receiving the awards from Paul Paul (Michael) Scanlan, Vice President for Solution, Sales and Marketing of Huawei—one of the event partners of the 2012 Asia Communication Awards.

"This is not first time SMART has been recognized for its leadership in innovation and technology. This shows SMART's commitment in striving to deliver excellent products and services so that our subscribers can truly Live More."

Noel Lorenzana,
SMART SVP and Head for Wireless Consumer Division

SMART
LIVE MORE

THE TWO Sulog Kids "walk the talk" to greatness. Their worn-out slippers do not wear out their spirit as they walk the path of future heroes. From left, Rosa Valdez, Dionah Suson, Martha Balagat, Angela Serrano, Trishalen Wisag, 8 Modern Windy and Raymond dela Cruz. Rosa, a former street beggar, established groups to help her fellow kids embrace a good speaker at the recent CNN Hero conference in Bali.

IN THIS ISSUE

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- **For one man,** trade comes 2nd to being Filipino / B2-1
- **No more waiting in vain** for eco-ethical House of Marley goods / B4

Shooting for 'quintuple bottom line'

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

LCF mounts 11th CSR Expo in July to encourage CSR among PH firms

IN A PERFECT world, all companies in the Philippines regardless of size—be they micro, small, medium or large—strive to have a healthy quintuple bottom line, as they believe that the business of business is not just business.

Unfortunately, the Philippine corporate world is light years away from being perfect, with only a handful of companies operating in a way that considers in the country's social, environmental and economic development, while at ethical framework while ensuring sufficient financial returns.

It's hard enough to meet the so-called triple bottom line that looks after people, planet and profit, and now the emerging global trend is to add one more parameter to define a "good" company: ethical framework and sustained economic development.

But hope springs for the 15-year-old League of Corporate Foundations, which believes that while the number of Philippine companies that subscribe to the quintuple bottom line is still small, it is definitely growing because players in the private sector do understand that the Philippines needs their helpto make it to the ranks of the world's fastest-growing economies while reducing the number of Filipinos living below the poverty line.

LCF is a network of over 70 operating and grant-making corporate foundations and corporations that promotes and enhances the strategic practice of corporate social responsibility among its members and the larger business community, towards sustained national development.

According to LCF chair Augusto Carpio III, who is also managing trustee of Ateneo Foundation, what could be holding most companies back from embracing the concept of going beyond merely making a profit are lack of inspiration and opinion on how to implement corporate social responsibility projects that they can sustain over the long term to make a real and measurable impact on poverty alleviation and economic development.

Seeking to point these willing companies in the right direction, LCF mounts various activities such as the annual CSR Expo to promote the adoption of CSR among Philippine firms.

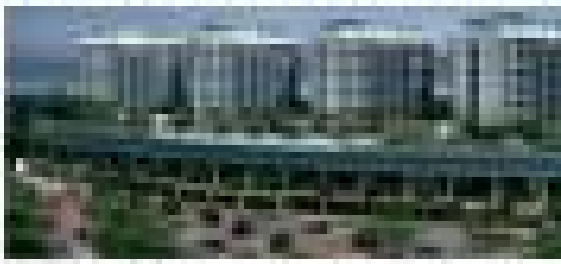
This year, the theme of the CSR Expo, which will be held on July 5 and 6 at the SMX Convention Center, is "Transforming the Business of Living Back," in recognition of the need to continue meeting the practice of corporate social responsibility given pressures such as the ongoing global economic and the growing social problems in the country.

According to Carpio, the practice of CSR must evolve continuously for the progress to respond to the changing needs of society.

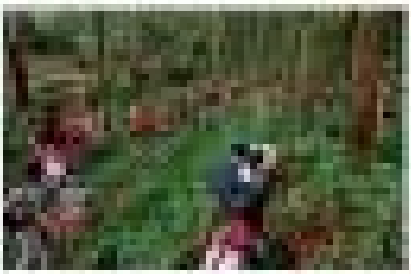
Thus, from pure philanthropy in the 1970s, or the practice of simply sponsoring books for charity work, CSR now entails developing business solutions to social problems. Companies today also strive to make CSR an integral part of doing business, which explains for example why food companies now adopt farmers who produce the raw materials they need to produce their line of goods.

DOT gears up tourism sector for Travel Mart

Megaworld transfers Eastwood co



Shooting for 'quintuple bottom line'



Philippines among the leaders in CSR work in the region

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You deal with workplace stressors – and usually end up with less th
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core business. Work hard, and enjoy the rewards your

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Work and of Play
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HISTORIC edifices to stop at (from left to right) Casa Blanca, Casa Bishop 1, Casa Binondo 2, and Casa Quiapo.

Money well spent on architectural conservation

STILL LIFE Murals are paintings inspired are seen on the first floor of Casa Vizcaínas.

Text and Photos by EV Espiritu
Inquirer Northern Luzon

MACAO, Pangasinan—People gladly pay to help fish-rate motels for adversary of conserving the country's architectural legacies.

"We can proudly tell the world that the Philippines has iconic houses and not just the rajas but on the show houses," says businessman Jose Arcasas.

He offers visitors the chance to stay in an authentic old house common in the Cordillera swamps of Pangasinan or in an 18th century Spanish stone-walled mansion inside a heritage resort here called the Las Casas Filipinas de Acuzar.

Arcasas, president of New Gen Asia Builders Inc., says he has been collecting old houses and transporting them brick by brick to Barangay Pugo here since 2003.

He has created a menagerie of 27 different houses representing various eras, statuses and social standing of Filipinos.

Arcasar has already spent almost half a billion pesos on his passion to preserve these structures, which he now offers as luxury homes and historical artifacts for sale.

For P15,750, a family can rent the Balisay heritage house, which has two bedrooms that can accommodate eight people.

Guests can make believe they have been transported to the time of Crisostomo Ibarra in chapter 10 in Jose Rizal's final novel, "Simoun," because of the Mindanao bed, the country chair exterior in the morning, a repast of classic Filipino meals, and a tour on a horse-drawn wagon of the compound where they are serenaded by young Filipinos in 18th century costumes, says Theresa Rhe-Ilefonso, general manager of Las Casas Filipinas de Acuzar.

Visitors will also find interesting the rituals built in the resort to simulate Mayan and its romantic guardians, she says.

Las Casas offers a day tour for P1,200 to P1,500 per person. There are also special rates for educational tours and a five-star morning package for P1,200 per person.

VISITORS look to heritage houses in Las Casas Filipinas de Acuzar.

CHILDREN playing takong-tsinko.

PASSED de Rizalina

A SECURITY man chat to guard the old gate.

TOASTS were lined to the second floor of Casa Mexico.

No more waiting in vain for eco-ethical House of Marley goods

By Armin Adina

HOUSE of Marley products carry the name of music legend Bob Marley, who championed youth, planet and peace during his lifetime.

THE UNDEMABLE love of Filipinos for music and the Philippines' abundant natural resources were more than enough to convince representatives of a US-based music accessories company to bring their brand to the country, ahead of Japan and even Europe.

According to Eric Caldwell, House of Marley's director of international sales, "there's a strong musical tradition here. There's something that resonates with the brand. If you look at this beautiful country here, all the beautiful women, you're hearing that this country is a paradise that needs to be preserved. And these types of people fit in with that."

He came in the country last month to help introduce House of Marley to the Philippines, one of the first Asian countries to have the brand's line of headphones and audio docks. The first international shipments were made between August and September of last year. The brand plans to launch in Singapore by this month, Caldwell told the Inquirer.

Citing House of Marley's principle of providing Earth-friendly products of the highest quality that also give back to society, Caldwell added: "And your look at the others, the materials, they fit in, they look like they belong [in the Philippines]. And the others as well, I think that they are fiendly-friendly, very-motoring-motley. I think these things all fit together."

Carrying the name of legendary reggae icon Bob Marley, the brand brings with it the musician's philosophy of championing "youth, planet and peace."

Aside from employing environmental-friendly processes in producing its products and using organic materials, what also makes the brand unique is its support for various charitable institutions.

Part of the sales of House of Marley products goes to the Marley family's Tuff Gong foundation, which raises funds for the benefit of the following international organizations: Save the Children, Every Mother Counts, Little Kids Rock, Bob Marley Foundation, Inphinit, Music for Relief, Project for Peace, Chasity Water, Invisible Children, Musicians, Be Dirk, Playing for Change Foundation and Deep.

Caldwell said that Tuff Gong chose to focus this year on Save the Children Foundation, which has a satellite office here in the Philippines.

The House of Marley was introduced at the 2011 Consumer Electronics Show (CES) in Las Vegas, Nevada, in January of last year. Michael Dy Buco, president and general manager of Philippines-based JBDH Marketing Inc., was there and saw a huge potential for the brand to prosper in the Philippines.

"I told them that I was inspired by the brand's principles. I love it very much, and bringing the products to the Philippines is helping give back to [Tuff Gong], which is a very good thing," Pito shared with the Inquirer.

"So I talked to Eric, I convinced him that I would do a great job of taking the brand here to the Philippines. Since I've done a good job with the other brands that we've worked with together, he decided to say yes," he added.

It was not a tough decision to make, Caldwell confessed.

"Because I've known him for some time and he's been successful in a number of brands that we've worked together on," he explained.

The House of Marley's parent company has been doing business with JBDH for its other brands for the past 16 years.

"We're full confident that this will be a challenge that he'll be able to more than handle. And I can see how he really embraced the whole philosophy and embody it and created about it. That's exactly the type of partner that we aspire to have in every country," Caldwell said.

Pito added: "The products are very Filipino. The Jamaican flavor is very similar. If you look at the products, if you look at the materials, they're very Filipino. There's wood, organic cotton, if you see plastics, they're very high quality plastics. And the design, the colors, the shapes are very Filipino."

House of Marley products are made with wood certified by the Forest Stewardship Council, a non-profit organization devoted to encouraging the responsible management of the world's forests.

"So if you ever a tree, you plant a replacement tree. So we're substituting the effect on the environment of how we make our products," Caldwell explained.

"We use recyclable aluminum, as much recycled plastic as we can. We use organic dyes, cotton, leather, cotcona. If you look at how the products are made, it's totally different from all the other products out there in the market," he added.

The packaging is also environment-friendly, Caldwell said.

"If you look at the way the packaging is done, it's recycled paper board, fairly-friendly dyes. You're not eating all some plastic clamshell. In the stores, they can show you the products and view and listen all again in the box and it's perfect, it's all new," he said.

The Marley family is also heavily involved in the brand, Caldwell said.

"We were introduced to the Marley family almost two years ago. The one with Robert Marley, who is one of Bob Marley's sons. And as we spoke together, it became clear that there were striking things and ideas coming from this conversation," Caldwell recounted.

"They're really involved in every aspect of the business. The reason we chose audio products to begin with was because Bob Marley and the family ... they're active musicians, very famous musicians. The products have got to sound good. We're making them using unique materials, but they have to sound good. And in fact, they sound hand in hand. Using the FSC-certified wood helps you to achieve a richer, deeper sound," he explained.

Caldwell added: "They're very involved in actually approving the products, the design of the products, the way they look, the packaging. The names of all our products are based on Bob Marley's songs. All the advertising, all the marketing material, everything is approved by the Marley family."

Since its launch late year, the company has boosted its capacity to accommodate the increasing demand, he shared. Its factories in China have been redesigned to keep up with the global demand without compromising the quality of the products, as supervised by their ISO-trained engineers, Caldwell added.

And because of the rising interest in the brand, the House of Marley plans to offer bags and wristwatches, which will also be inspired by Bob Marley and his legacy.

"The first shipment of bags will come in July. And the watches, we're looking at October or November," Caldwell disclosed.

The Philippines may expect the House of Marley bags to arrive in the fourth quarter of the year, while the accessories will be made available in the first quarter of next year, Pito said.

Filipino followers of Bob Marley can hardly wait.

Sunday BIZ

For one man, trade comes 2nd to being Filipino

Sebastian Angliongto is chair emeritus of the Davao City Chamber of Commerce and Industry

By Gerardina Lazarte
Inquirer Mindanao

DAVAO CITY—Businessman Sebastian Angliongto recalls growing up in a traditional Chinese household where only slightly being late or absent for dinner could mean missing a meal for the night.

"My father was a very strict and disciplined man," says Angliongto, chair emeritus of the Davao City Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCCII) and one of the few Mindanao leaders who served the government during the time of former President Ramos.

"He was very generous to others, but on an end to himself, he was very strict," he recalls.

He remembers an incident when he was 8 years old and his father's friend, Alfonso Dalanon, asked him to accompany him to the past. He went along, unaware that he was doing his father's friend a favor. But when he arrived home at half past noon, lunch had already been served. He was then told to go straight to his room.

"It was his way of imposing discipline," Angliongto said. "Once he set the table, everyone was supposed to be there. No one was supposed to get any special treatment. He used to say, 'lead a life of your own, but don't forget to respect your elders.'"

Learning this kind of discipline from his father was good for him, he said, but it would be hard to impose similar rules on his children.

"You would be deluged by 'why's,' that you will have to explain, and there, after you have explained, there would be a lot of competing with other people," Angliongto says.

"Time has changed. In our time, we were taught to follow even if we did not like it."

Fondly called Angie by his friends and business associates, Angliongto gets amused...his friends call him Lariosa, the Filipino word for stingy—because he continues to use his old cellular phone, instead of buying a brand new device.

"Why would I buy a BlackBerry unless I only use my phone for texting? Why would I buy an expensive one when my old love is serving me well?" he says.

My father was a hardworking and very thrifty man, and all my life, I tried to follow his steps."

His father, Alfonso Angliong, pioneered shipping in the Davao coastal trade in 1921. The business later expanded all the way down to the east coast towns of Cateel and Baganga in Davao Oriental and of Malita, Sarangani, Cotabato to Goodman in the south.

Angliongto said his father's father belonged to the second wave of Chinese migrants who entered the Philippines through the south. The first wave, or the earliest batch of Chinese immigrants, entered the Philippines through Cavite and Manila and were pressured by the Spaniards.

Angliongto's grandfather used the southern route of Surabaya, entering through Jolo in 1916 and established their first business in Zamboanga. It was there where his grandfather's two sons, Angliongto's father and uncle, put up a store.

When they reached Davao in 1921, Angliongto's father Alfonso started out with a former Davao selling newspapers with his uncle, who later went to Malita in Davao del Sur and married a Filipina. His father finally left his store in Zamboanga and came down to Davao to build a 28-ton wooden boat at the Davao River.

Shipping was his father's lifelong dream. The 20-meter assisted plying the coastal towns of the Davao Gulf. In 1935, he built a second ship named after the Fukien city of Sink Chio, where his father came from. In 1936, when his father became successful enough, he bought a 120-ton Spanish steamship and named it Sik Sebastian, because it was where Angliongto was born.

"I was so old as Davao City," Angliongto had a habit of selling friends. The family ship, however, was destroyed during the Japanese occupation.

Among his friends in Davao, Angliongto would engage them in Binays and Tagalog. But sometimes he would wonder what his father would think if he knew he had forgotten much of his Chinese heritage except for Fukien. (The language spoken at his father's hometown).

Angliongto says that even his Fukien already sounds binays and sounds hasap to the real Fukienese.

Although his elder brothers had some lessons in study at the Chung Hua Hsueh University in Manila to allow him to get in touch with his Chinese roots, it was at the University of the Philippines later on, where he took his agriculture course, that he learned Tagalog and savored Filipino food.

He says it was his UP education that turned him into a real Filipino, almost forgetting his Chinese culture.

My father used to tell us, he says, that "this is your country, this is where you grow here and Chinaman ... You inherited my name, I am Alfonso now but my name is Ang Liong Te, my family name is yours, you are citizens of this country, but you are of Chinese blood, don't forget your roots."

But he says sadly, though, that he has Chinese forgotten the language. He says have visited China seven or eight times, but he does not have any ideas of settling there.

"My heart is here, this is where I was brought up, and I cannot be counterscenarios in this culture," he says.

Even at the height of Martial Law, when the country was plunged into darkness and despair, Angliongto says, he had no desire to migrate.

When, out of curiosity, people ask which side he is on with the events that happen the Philippines and China, he becomes agitated.

"How can people ask that?" he says. "I've been living here all my life, I don't even speak the language of China, I would be a citizen without a country."

On father's dog he still recalls what his father used to tell his children when he was still alive.

ANGIE Angliongto (seated) with his wife and two children

His father, Alfonso Angliongto

"Look at yourself as a tree—your root is China, the trunk is your clan, and I am your branch. The leaves and fruits fall to the ground, you come and go, but the tree remains strong and sturdy."

TREASURED Family picture: Angliongto was the youngest boy in the family.

People, Events & Products

E-mail: supplements@inquirer.com.ph
Supplements Head: Jong Arcadio

Globe hails OFWs, their families on Migrant Workers' Day

AS PART of its commitment to support the migrant workers sector, Globe Telecom joined forces with the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) and the Overseas Workers' Welfare Administration (OWWA) for the eighth year in a row to celebrate the annual Migrant Workers' Day.

The event convened over 25,000 OFWs and their families in commemoration the signing of Republic Act 8042 or the Migrant Workers and Overseas Filipino Act of 1995, an act to institute the policies of overseas employment and establish a higher standard of protection and promotion of the welfare of migrant workers and their families.

With the theme "OFW sa Iligtas at Saling, Hilik Kami sa Inyo," this year's Migrant Workers' Day featured the different programs and services of the three government agencies for OFWs and their families through the various booths, livelihood and job fairs, and symposiums.

As a major sponsor of the event, Globe showcased its portfolio of international services with a booth at the expo area. Visitors learned more about the company's pioneering offers for the migrant workers and their families, such as the Globe OFW Family Pack, which comes with an OFW SIM that is ready to use abroad with a pre-activated roaming service and a Family SIM which allows family members to send texts at P1 per text.

Another innovative offer is the Globe TM/TM/GO, which is the newest all-network text promo that allows subscribers to send 100 text messages to any local or international network covered by 58 destinations worldwide to use single-for. Exclusively available to Globe Prepaid subscribers, Globe TM/TM/GO enables subscribers to send a combination of 100 local texts to Globe, TM, Smart, Sun, Talk N Text, or Red Mobile or international texts to 58 destinations worldwide. For the 30th promo, other Globe Prepaid and more affordable text messaging rate in this number at only P99 valid for 1 day or P1,20 per text. To register, subscribers can text TEXTM 1,30 and send to 8888, or dial *143#, choose All Time Free Promos and then select International Call and Text Promos.

At the event, Globe also offered free calls via a Libreng Tawag station inside its booth that allowed OFW families in the Philippines to call their loved ones abroad using Globe TipMO Card, the most affordable prepaid IDD card which comes in P25, P100, and P200 denominations. For as low as P2.50 per minute, subscribers in the country can make international calls to the US, Canada, and Hong Kong using the Globe TipMO card, which is valid at any Globe kiosk, dongge, or through Globe authorized dealers nationwide.

"Globe has always been active in lending support to the initiatives of DOLE and its attached agencies POEA and OWWA, especially those that directly benefit OFWs and their families. For our part, we are proud that we have the most innovative and affordable line-up of voicing and calling services that bridge the gap between Filipinos around the globe and their loved ones in the Philippines, keeping their bonds alive despite being miles away," said Ritchie Gan, head of Globe Prepaid.

The event was also highlighted by the launch of the 2012 Model OFW family of the Year Awards (MOFYA), the annual search for deserving and most exemplary OFW families in the country as well as the signing of the memorandum of agreement with the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) to further strengthen the campaign against illegal recruitment.

GENVI DEV'T SIGNS LOAN AGREEMENT WITH UCPB

ZEBU-BASED property developer Genvi Development Corp. has officially sealed a P600-million loan deal with the United Coconut Planters Bank of the Philippines (UCPB), to further develop its flagship real estate venture, Modern Lapu-lapu City. The loan contract signing, held at the Armstrong Function Room Gamel Hotel and Conference in Cebu City, was attended by (from left) Genvi managing director Arsenio Dinopol, Cebu Ayala Land, Inc. president Rhoda Mae Ayala, Genvi president Arlichel Regala Ayala, Genvi president Arlichel Regala Ayala, Genvi president Arlichel Regala

Not-so-'dirty' ice cream brings in clean profit

Cusi brothers revive the cool family business

By Yolanda Stella
Inquirer Northern Luzon

BAGUIO CITY—Don't call this ice cream "dirty."

Children in many provinces have fond memories of homemade ice cream sold by smiling vendors pushing wooden carts. Their passenger, an unmistakably big, familiar sound of handheld bells, was enough to make the kids from their seats and gather in the streets for a sweet afternoon treat.

Out of place

But calling this ubiquitous Filipino snack—which comes in cheese, chocolate and fruit flavors—"dirty" seems to be out of place, says Salustio Cusi, a local ice cream producer.

"Dumi-rumi ng impression sa amin. We definitely produce and sell clean ice cream with fresh, natural ingredients like fruits in season, cheese and chocolate. They are not only delicious but also nutritious," Cusi, 40, says.

"And please don't underestimate the ice cream sold in carts as it can make siblings in school and enable them to complete university education," he adds.

Cusi and his brother, Edwin, are reviving the long-time business of their late father, Nestor, who started as "subletter" (ice cream vendor) until he became one of the three known ice cream makers in the city.

NESTOR Ice Cream is being revived by the Cusi brothers.

Nestor's Ice Cream was one of the products identified by the city government as "Dagupan's Best."

Cusi says that from the 1950s to the early 2000s, there were three ice cream factories in the city and their carts were always seen on streets and near schools. These were the Kapalaran, Bagong Silat and Nestor's Ice Cream. Kapalaran had closed shop while Bagong Silat is run by a son of the owner, but with much fewer carts.

"They were three young friends from Barangay, one of them was my father, who came to Dagupan a couple of years before it became a city in 1947. The two established ice cream factories—Kapalaran and Bagong Silat...and my father, who was so poor, was a sorbetero (vendor)," Cusi says.

Hard life

Nestor met Lutgarina Estrada, a Dagupense, who became his wife. "Their home the hard life. My father did odd jobs, like being a helper in the kitchen, while my mother was a Tabacalera' (laundry woman). My father finished only Grade 2 and my mother was a high school graduate. They always told us to study hard so we won't experience the difficult life they went through," Cusi says.

He still remembers his father's encouraging words: "Study hard, and as long as I am able, I will support you."

He kept his word. "Through selling ice cream and the support of my mother, two of my eldest sisters finished civil engineering and dentistry, respectively," Cusi says.

When Sarasate, the dentist, was married but abroad, she sent money to her father to establish his own ice cream factory in 1986, and life became a little easier.

"Promise of ice cream, all of us eight children were able to complete college education. Two are civil engineers (Aniceto and Wilfredo), one is a dentist (Sarasate), one a doctor (Ofelia), one finished medical technology (Christita), one is an accounting graduate (Lily) and one finished nursing (Edwin)," says Cusi, an aviation electronics engineer.

While all employed, the Cusi siblings decided to revive the business as a tribute to their hardworking father.

Cusi and Edwin are directly engaged in the business, with Rolando involved in finance and research and development while Edwin is in charge of marketing.

"I know the ins and outs of the ice cream making business. When I was young, I assisted my father, from making ice cream to managing the business. Thus, I was able to run the business on my own when my mother was hospitalized in Manila and my father had to stay with her," he says.

Cusi speaks proudly of his brother's product: "It was sweet, thick and chewy not like the other ice cream products that are soft or watery."

Brisk orders

"Soap selling is dirty ice cream. It could even be cheaper than the commercial ice cream which could have preservatives. Besides, we use only natural ingredients like fresh fruits, fresh coconut milk, chocolates and cheese. We don't use extracts or artificial flavoring or food coloring," he adds.

The Cusi's Ice Cream factory has been accepting orders from customers, especially those who are familiar with the taste and consistency of its products.

Cusi says their bestsellers are avocado, ube, mango, pineapple, durian, vanilla and chocolate ice cream. They also plan to add new products like ice cream in cup-and-pinipig crunch.

"We are not concerned about shelf life of our products because what our products is good only for the day or at most, two days," Cusi says.

He recalls that his father did not encourage him and his siblings to go into the ice cream business. "But we see some hidden legacy to continue, and we are using modern technology to create a better product," he says.

GOINGS-ON

GMA Worldwide expands

GMA Worldwide, Inc. (GMAW), the program acquisition and syndication arm of broadcast company GMA Network, Inc. (GMA), continues to penetrate more markets in various territories.

GMA VP for GMA Pinoy TV Rowena J. Bandolon said that Pinoy is capturing interest in Philippine-produced programs not just in Asia but across the rest of the world, bringing the GMA-produced dramas and

Asia and Middle East.

CFA Society mounts meet

Premier local finance institution Chartered Financial Analyst Society of the Philippines partners with the Asia Pacific Association for Fiduciary Studies (APAFS) for the 17th consecutive year, to promote the call for social responsibility in the field of investing and sustainability in field of economic development.

Locally, responsible investing and sustainable development are the overall theme of the upcoming 12th Annual Private Region Investment Conference which will be held at Alabastro 15 and 16 in Manila, Philippines.

CFA Philippines is an association of investment professionals that sets the standard for professional excellence and is a champion for ethical behavior in investment markets.

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By Enrique Abadesco, Jr.
July 26 (2...July 27th 8:30am to 5:30pm, Makati city
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BOSSING AKO
SUCCESS THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

Felix Ang
Bossing ng CATS Motors

Mula noon hanggang ngayon
may lakas ng loob.

Felix was 17 years old when he took the summer job that would shape the course of his life. It was his early exposure to the business at a friend's automotive company that helped him develop the courage he needed in order to succeed. Eventually, he left school, and at 19, started a trade business that initially employed 2 people. From there, he slowly but surely worked his way up. His biggest break came in 2004, when he was awarded the Mercedes-Benz distributorship in the country.

Starting a business takes guts; growing it requires even more courage. It is this same principle that allowed PLDT to emerge as the country's preferred and most trusted telecommunications provider, one that the bravest of Filipino Entrepreneurs trust for their technological needs.

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Sunday LIFESTYLE
Editor Thelma Sioson San Juan

JRS EXPRESS

The ₱500-million 'Birkin scam,' or how a woman's obsession led to crime

By Cherbe Y. Moral

The names have been changed pending the filing of case in court.

This is a cautionary tale of what's turning out to be a pyramid scheme built on people's lust for luxury designer brands

NATE met Sheila (not their real names) in 2004 through his friend Jack, who owns an art gallery. Nate is the gallery director in a Manila university owned by his family. A former flight attendant who had taken a break from work when she married and had children, Sheila had just started working at Jack's gallery.

Nate and Sheila quickly became friends. She was a very simple girl, he recalls in an interview, and even in the had an experience in the art scene, Sheila showed a knack for talent so that Jack began to trust her. Jack made her technorial partner, and later, managing director, widening her social network to the moneyed, art connoisseur set.

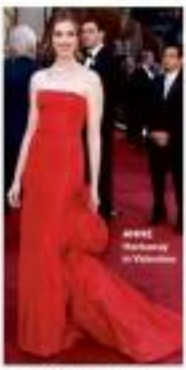
"When we first met, Nice Shot at Olde Finds were already expensive for her," Nate says. "When she started hanging out with people from the art scene and several of her former flight attendant friends who had married rich, that all began to change."

He adds, "Upon learning, she had a lot of those. That [the Birkin thing] came about..."

Nate and Sheila's friendship developed into a business relationship. It all started innocently and harmless. Nate would travel to Europe with his partner Tess, and Sheila would ask him to buy a few designer bags to sell her "clients."

"At times, she said the orders would be three Chanels, five Goyards, one Hermes... All of these I would finance," Nate says. "I made money by keeping the tax refund.

THE ₱500-MILLION C1



ABOVE: Harbauvay in Valentino

Classic purity

Under new creative directors Maria Grazia Chiuri and Pier Paolo Piccioli, the fashion legend thrives

ESTABLISHED in 1960 by fashion icon Valentino Garavani, Valentino remains one of the best known fashion brands worldwide. It offers a wide range of luxury products, from haute couture and prêt-à-porter to accessories collections.

Maria Grazia Chiuri and Pier Paolo Piccioli were appointed Valentino creative directors in October 2008. Both had worked closely with Garavani for a decade, contributing to the [illegible] success of womenswear, he-dorie line, haute couture collection

CLASSICS C2

I ♥ Wimbledon

Why covering it is like speed-dating

TENNIS fans picnic and set up camp on Wimbledon grounds throughout the tourney.

HAMPTON Court Palace

By Raoul Matta
Contributor

LONDON... IT WOULD be the start of a beautiful romance, albeit a one-sided one.

My love affair began the moment I stepped on the sacred grounds of the All England Lawn Tennis Club.

The event is a living colosseum in the world's oldest tennis competition, and you know in an instant that you're in a monument steeped in history and tradition.

This is where my climbing in the pantheons of tennis begins, and it feels rather like a giddy first date. But you can't get too caught up with the hype. Like the top players in the tournaments, I had to put on my game faces and get on with the job. First on the assignment list, round-robin interviews with the tennis stars! Three minutes with each tennis player, and in that time, find out as much as I could about him.

Oh dear.

Can't say I have ever tried speed-dating but I know it involves speaking to many people in a brief period, trying to leave a good first impression, getting the other person to like you in a week of secrecy, and getting to know as much about them as quickly as possible. It's a three-minute round before someone motions you on to the next "date."

Well that doesn't sound much different from what journalists are doing every day to Wimbledon—asking the best questions possible in the hope of getting the most interesting answers. In my case, with exclusive interviews limited to 180 seconds with each player. We try to make each second count.

The hard-hitting questions out of the way, I find myself asking, "What's your favorite restaurant at Wimbledon?" Now that I think about it, it is a rather "first date-ish" sort of question. If like begets like, good...first—they give me better insights into the players' personalities. It's not to that I can stalk them later. Really.

Here are some of my "dates" that stood out...

Date # 4: They say that a way to a man's heart is through his stomach, and avoid No. 18, Spaniard Fernando Verdasco, often makes reference to his girlfriend who is whipping up dinners for him at home in the two weeks of competition. They head out occasionally. "Italian, maybe Indian," he says. It's nice to know the lip-sign of tennis are not all about fancy restaurants and posh dining.

Date #7: "She makes me laugh." It's a bit clichéd, but it's always a good thing when your tennis star smiles at your attempt at being funny. Having just been knocked out of the tournament, Taiwan's Yen-Hsun Lu had apparently been bracing himself for something a little more relaxed. "I wasn't expecting that question," he chuckled while patting his belly. Ice broken...succeed. This is another man who loves being pampered at home; this time by his mom. With many of the players from Chinese Taipei, he'll sometimes eat at China Town, 30 minutes away in London. I'm getting the impression that there is some really amazing food there—better self—must check out the menu.

Date #9: It's said that you make a decision about a person within the first three seconds of meeting them. Within that time, I had decided I would listen all day to the account of former world No. 6, France's Gilles Simon. What?! Three minutes is up?! This was one "date" I wouldn't mind going on for hours.

Before you know it, the round robin session is over, and I'm called to the next assignment. When is my own lucky date?

Raoul Matta is a presenter on Star Sports. Catch her on Star Sports' coverage of Wimbledon, or catch the tournament in high definition on ESPN HD.

THE AUTHOR on Henman Hill

2001 CHAMPION Goran Ivanisevic serves up hot coffee on the Wimbledon queue.

WITH FRIEND Fernando Verdasco

The ₱500-million 'Birkin scam,' or how a woman's . . .

and for each bag, depending on the price. I would get ₱15,000 to ₱25,000 each as carrier's fee. I did that for almost 2½ years."

Sheila made good on her word. "I enjoyed doing it," says Nate. "With that alone, each of my flights to Europe was already paid for. And I was also treated to many wonderful parties on my awaik card."

That she quickly adds, "Let me be clear that I was only doing it for fun. I only did it on the side, I didn't travel to Europe just to buy bags for her."

It was about the time Nate's finances opened to free boutique here that things became complicated.

Plausible proposition

I blame Birkin was the one bag everyone lusted after. But even if you had ₱500,000 lying around, which was the estimated cost of the cheapest Birkin in Greenbelt, the boutique couldn't stock up by the dozens. If you wanted one quick, you had to look elsewhere.

"She asked me if wanted to invest in the Birkin," Nate recalls.

The deal went this way: Sheila would ask an investor to pull in ₱450,000. In Europe, the cheapest Birkin costs shy of ₱400,000. She would sell the purse for ₱500,000. It was a plausible proposition. Some women would rather pay the extra ₱50,000 from the Manila price tag than travel to Europe to buy a purse.

Of the total sales, ₱50,000 would go to the carrier who buys the bag in Europe or elsewhere; ₱50,000 to Sheila as middle person, and ₱350,000 as the investor. In short, an investor's ₱450,000 becomes ₱500,000 in just a month, or a profit of 11 percent—a deal even the top banks couldn't give.

"The first time, Nate was a mere investor, not a buyer/carrier.

"We did that for about six times," Nate says. On the seventh time, Nate asked his nephew if he wanted to invest as well. The nephew said yes and, as usual, all parties involved laughed all the way to the bank.

"I never saw the Birkins, she just showed me photos on her phone," Nate says. It didn't matter. She paid him on schedule, business was good.

Then came February this year. Nate was readying for another Europe trip when Sheila called to ask if he had ₱2 million. It was for a movable Birkin, she said, which would cost that much. Her son gave she could sell the bag the following week. Expected profit was a measly ₱500,000.

"In a pyramid scam, this tactic doesn't make you instantly rich, it makes you buy time," Tom, Nate's partner, points out. "If I ask P2 million from you, I'll use it to temporarily make good with everybody."

Looking back, Nate believes the P2 million was intended to pay off checks issued from earlier that never clear for payment. At the time, he didn't suspect yet that anything was amiss.

Again, Nate turned in his cashier for ₱500,000 with a promised profit of ₱50,000. "My nephew wanted to invest the entire P2 million but good thing I told him no."

Nate met with Sheila a few days later, on Feb. 13, in a friend's house, where she handed him the check for the investment plus profit, dated Feb. 17.

"She looked different," Nate says on hindsight. "She had an outdoor on, no jewelry. She looked pauer and sick. I didn't know then that her financial woes were already spilling up."

On Feb. 15, a Wednesday, Sheila called Nate to say she wasn't able to deposit the check payment of the Birkin buyer [to fund the check issued Nate]. "Monday came and she called again only to say the buyer's check bounced so she'd just deposit the amount to my account that afternoon. I kept calling the bank all day as I was hearing the bounce the next day and nothing. I had already issued a check to my nephew dated Feb. 23. I didn't worry that so because, especially since I would be away, I decided to get back the check, and just pass it on to nephew in cash. I didn't want any trouble with my family."

Crumbling pyramid

On their way to the airport, Tom finally told Nate: "Can't you see, the pyramid is crumbling?"

Tom says he always had misgivings about Sheila's dealings, but he wanted to give her the benefit of the doubt. He thought it was too good to be true, but he had no reason to doubt her. She was a good friend to Nate. And up until that moment, she always delivered.

Turned out his gut feel was right. "If you can make that much money out of nothing, why would you let other people in?" Tom says rhetorically. "You'll just keep it for yourself! The fact that she can't invest money from people for nothing, she must be good, all right."

Sheila has not been seen or heard from since February. Nate and their friends suspect she's hiding somewhere in the US. When things unraveled, it became known that the woman had duped many people, including her own closest friends and family. The other has enormous amounts that made the ₱500,000 Nate had lost seem like loose change.

Funny because we had regular discuss and no one ever spoke of their business dealings with Sheila," Nate says wryly. "It just seemed like good business that each wanted to keep it a secret...

"One time Sheila went to the mall manager of an outlet to ask for ₱5 million," Nate says. "Her favorite line was 'magamit mo sa ofisan, baka naman may mahanap kang P5 million.' When that manager told her she had no money and to ask from our friend Ann instead, Sheila replied that how could she do that when Ann was just as an alkwentser from her rich husband. In truth she'd already gotten P2.5 million from Ann."

"When it was suggested that she come to our funeral, she told the person that we were not close. I'm the godfather of her son!"

Social butterfly

Nate estimates Sheila has made off with about P800 million from different people, based on the stories of those who have come forward. "She isn't really all how much. Most victims are coming out every day."

Chito, Tom and Celina, another victim, spoke to buyers on condition of anonymity, pending the filing of a case against Sheila. Other supposed victims declined our requests for interviews.

Nate volunteered Sheila's introduction from the simple girl he met eight years ago to a Birkin-toting social butterfly.

On her birthday last April, Sheila had a Mukbil cakes closed for her private party. She had the model's posters on the wall, replaced table her own garments, and she hired a top caterer. After the entire party, she and her guests were chauffeured to a five-star hotel, where she hosted dinner and after-dinner cocktails.

Nate never wondered how Sheila was able to maintain her lifestyle; he just assumed her Birkin business was doing very good.

Sheila's husband, Jake, works for a high-profile overseas politician and owner designer suits.

"Hermes, Louis Vuitton," Tom says. "He never wore bags then because he said it was beneath him, and that's what he told people." Jake's closet dozens of over 200 pairs of designer brands—Prada, Dior, Gucci—was even featured in a shoe blog, says Nate.

It's an art first last year, Sheila's young son pointed to a vandyke painting and said he liked it. The mom didn't think twice about plunking ₱75,000 for the painting, Nate says.

Of how the couple kept their lavish lifestyle, says Tom: "I told Nate that it could be one of two things: it was either Sheila's business was doing so good, or her husband was really corrupt."

One time, Nate went to a Greenbelt 5 boutique with Sheila and her husband. Jake paid for the purchases in cash. When Nate asked why he didn't use a credit card since it was a huge amount, Jake joked that it was better that way since it meant no paper trail.

Not just Birkins

Sheila's scheme turned out to be not just about Birkins. "To others, it would be paluluga," says Tom, who also owns an art gallery. "She would show a photo of a painting on her phone. She'll say 'I'll buy in Magnanyo-kol' from a Monet! How on-site get a Monet! All those people listened! Different approaches to different people. Driven divas, watches. Very jewelers.

"There are lots of sad stories. She got money from someone who was getting married. Someone's house got foreclosed because they invested all their savings with Sheila. She also got money from the owner of her son's school, even the PTA. Of course, how could they not trust her? She brought her son's cookie class to Ocean Park, complete with lunch!"

While no case has yet been filed against Sheila, the group is thankful for former soldier friends, Celina, is being sued by an investor who lost ₱7 million. Celina's son had asked Jake to issue an affidavit assuring that Sheila and his mom were not "business partners," ergo not in cahoots, as alleged in the suit, has also refused.

Celina is now Sheila's senior in the airline they studied for. The older woman was a sponsor at Sheila's wedding.

"I had no reason to doubt her," says Celina in a phone call to the business. "She had no history of being dishonest."

Distressed about being sued for Sheila's crimes, Celina laments her predicament. "I really want to go after her, but I can't even do that because I can't pay for a lawyer; she made off with all my money!" She lost ₱1.1 million of her personal money to her old friend.

No haggling

A fashion designer, who asked for anonymity, described Sheila as a good client for about five years. She never haggled, he says. At one point, she paid him with a painting; she claimed she owned a gallery.

"That was her packaging: young, rich and successful," says the designer. "She always wore new things. Her bags were always the latest."

Another friend found out that Sheila never sold those Chanels and Celines he had been buying for her in Europe; she used them herself. "She just never wore them when we were together. But she told our friends they were gifts from me! No wonder when someone had a birthday they would tease me, 'no Chanel/dior ninong.'"

The week before Sheila disappeared, Nate learned she held a garage sale, apparently to offset her other debts.

"She had 40 pairs of Tory Burch flats. If she liked something, she bought it in all colors. The Celine bags that are so popular now, she had 12 of those, all in exotic leather."

Their friend Ang, who was closest to Sheila, wasn't spared. She offered to sell Ang's own Birkin, and the scammed friend said yes. Sheila didn't sell the bag, she only pawned it. "Good thing Amy knew the person she pawned it to. Ang redeemed her own bag," Nate says.

Lavish lifestyle

It wasn't, however, the only time Sheila allegedly used a friend's name to get a loan.

She sold a 3-carat diamond ring to Ang, an object so cherished by the self-made IT entrepreneur that she had a safe built just for it.

But at a party, a jeweler friend noticed that the rock was a fake. Sheila shrugged this off, saying that the owner must have been cheated by the person she entrusted it with, a lie dawning. She offered to reimburse Ang just like that. The resulting friend was appeased.

Sheila's issues had grown quite expensive through the years that on a Bangkok vacation last year with Nate, Tom and their girl friends, she refused to join them in the city's hospital haunts. Instead she stayed behind in the hotel to get spa treatments, and shopped only in high-end malls.

Sheila's Twitter account, which at public hit but hasn't been updated since the disappeared, also provides an insight into her lavish lifestyle. Frequent subjects of her tweets are bags, bags and more bags. She designs clothes, bags, shoes and jewelry. Other facebook accounts has been deleted.)

Insurance and creditors had cleared Sheila's home of furniture and art pieces, says Nate, the same home she claimed she owned and had renovated for P2 million. "We were there for the blessing. It turns out they were just renting."

Her family has since vacated to the superrich, according to Nate.

"She just had to keep up with friends!" Tom says. "She must have thought they wouldn't stay her friends if she didn't have the same things they had."

Even in her current situation, there's a degree of denial in Nate's voice over the friendship and trust that's now in ruins. "She was really nice," he concedes. "We never knew she would be scamming everyone."

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PENELOPE Cruz in Valentino

WHAT seems thick and intense on the mouth and eye is materially weightless.

IN VALENTINO'S latest collection, light passing through the fabric becomes a defining element.

Classic purity

From page C1

in Paris in January 2009, they proved their ability to fully understand and interpret the world of Valentino.

With their latest collection, Chiuri and Piccioli have established a new harmonious balance between a woman's pervading body and her clothes.

Freedom and a sense of optimism define drapes with classic purity that cross grace and precision. The sleek, rectangular silhouettes, which is heavy-weight or down to the cable, seems to disappear through transparencies.

Precise lines are transformed through the illusion of impalpable materials. What seems thick and intense to the touch and eye is materially and metaphorically weightless. Even ruffles, which are central to the spirit of the maison, have a geometric equilibrium.

Light passing through the fabric becomes a defining element. Long lace skirts are worn with embroidered blouses that appear transparent seen from the side.

Dresses made of impalpable mesh or geometric lace coincide capture graceful, sophisticated movement. Tone on tone the red motifs and appliqués have a sensuous yet delicate allure, like shadows passing over the fabric.

Valentino is available only at Adora, 2/F 2nd St. Greenbelt 5, Ayala Center, Makati; tel. 2174020

THE ROCKSTUD line of handbags has become iconic to the Valentino Garavani accessories line.

ROONEY Mara

SHOT by the legendary photographer Deborah Turbeville, the latest Valentino ad campaign is a real statement.

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Editor Thelma Sioson San Juan

Sunday LIFESTYLE

Sexy. Stimulating. Sage. Survivor

SHARING THE VOICE OF AGE AND WISDOM

Contributing Editor Chin Rocero

Gilda Cordero Fernando

Texting more fun in the Philippines

Even if I had texted it to 'STOP!' 'Gusto mo pa ba?' it retorted, 'Puede hanggang tatlong ring-back'

FOREVER 81

M, WHY does your cell phone have such an awful ring tone?" mum plained to my son Arvin. I had in phone my maid so I could hone it. "Hoho! waiting-ding-on-de-line," it nvented-hed. His grandso- na nice old gentleman calls-me- up!

I frantically hunt up the cal pan—Globe 2332. Biz before I can ress the number, I get another ad. vance: "If you don't reply within 24 hours, your ring tone will be re. turned for another 15 days."

How do people lead such pres- tressful lives! Did I ever refuse a beggar? Been cruel to ani- mals? Call anyone names?

But there it still was, even if I had texted it to "STOP!" "Gusto mo pa ba?" it retorted. "Puede hang- gang-walong ring back. Mom!/Sir/ Call Me Darling/ Carly/ Where I have You Been?/ Kibutsu/ Young, Wild and Free/ Iwasgalinga/ Call Me Magic/ Called Home. "Mom texted? You. . ."

"Aww! no!" I beg, "Stop-to, please!" I will stop yelling at the

TEXTING 82

Sale

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Texting more fun in the Philippines

Front page B1

...jeepney drivers parking on my sidewalk. I still look for my own slippers. I still rest wake up the maid to ask if I took my pills. There...is my best English. I text a long sarcastic message to ZERO.never to become a poor 82-year-old woman's this way again!

The phone rang back: 'You are subscribed to the following RTH (Who-subscribed me in the first place?): You have two ring codes! TE RO (Tetanus / Anti-) (04 51; 03 297. Subs Wahang Ibig Babalas."

How to remove the damsel now? Mystikki said. Chemist, has already left for Kuwait. I still the crush. She doesn't know how. I call the babysitter's. She doesn't know either.

Finally I receive a text reply I not understand: 'Text STOP ALL to 22222. I text STOP ALL in big letters, then STOP ALL in small letters, then to caps and home row. I text STOP ALL 12 times to drive home my point.

I get the answer — 12 times! "You are currently not subscribed to any RTH. Subscribe at (illegible) instead. You wouldn't want a boring ring ring every month you?" I would, I would. I would! I promise to go to Mass every Sunday. I promise.

But it still flashed five new choices of songs. Maybe that's what it is trying to tell me. Leave it be! Don't answer back. Ruin Ledesma is right. Don't have a cellphone! It's nothing but unsolicited noises.

But then the phone rings again. It is Ruth, my grandson in New Manila. "Lolo Rhel, would you like to see a movie with me on Sunday?" It is meant to my ears. "Sis, Ruth, of course, I do!" I say.

Frances, the eldest grandson who is beside me, texts Ruth, "Sorry eh?"

"Sure!" Ruth replies.

"My brother Carlo," says Frances. "Sun have nothing to do and the movie since last week. Can he come along, Lolo Rhel?"

I nod.

"Whats about Jo?" I ask, remembering the middle brother. "Do you think he's free?"

"Yes," says his mother. Plainly. "I'm sure he would love to go."

Quintin, Ruth's brother, texts that he will go straight from Tagaytay where he is right now, and joins us in the movie house. The two-piece next door hears about the outing on Sunday.

"PARADE of Striped Prisoners"

"Can we join?" they ask. "Well come to the parade." I reply to Jasmine and Miguel.

"What about the two girls?" I ask. One is leaving for Norway and the other is low in vacation somewhere.

"It's no'll text to your house in Pansy for lunch on Sunday?" Ruth texts. It is a rhetorical question.

Frantically I text my neighbor son, Mel. "Hello! Seven boys lunching here on Sunday?! Make the head-?"

That's where Mel is our hero. "Okay!" he says without hesitation. "I'll cook. What do you want?"

Anything but lasagna," I text back.

"I've decided to drive the three boys down from Antipolo and will join you on Sunday," texts Melody. "Add one more plate!"

"What about Boy?" I ask about the boys' father. "He'll be left all alone. Take him along."

"Will do!" Melody texts back. "Two more people for lunch," I text Mel. "Okay!" he texts back, unruffled.

He loves texting his status with the flourish of a connoisseur. "I'm making tinolang chips; guacamole with cassia and fresh coriander; tomato salsa (from Gourmet Farms); slow-cooked pork ribs marinated overnight in coconut vinegar, garlic, orange marmalade and soy sauce. Freshly boiled sweet corn; Cafe Havana style, flavored with cumin; dish pan dor and paprika rolled in sliced and pan-seared, coleslaw in sour cream; Mexican-style fried rice with chorizo, ham, red and green peppers, paprika, tomato catsup and tomato sauce. Dessert: fruit pudding."

The boys chose to go. Jessie's

"PRIDE and Prejudice"

the movie they say popcorn, corn, dog, French fries, ice cream, hot fudge sundae, caramel sundae and coke.

When we get back to Pansy they are hungry again! We phone Mel.

Mel sends over a hundreds of pesos! I add a big dish of chicken afritada and two cans of corned beef. We run out of rice and ask for some more soon does.

I want to examine the soles of the boys' feet which I suspect have holes in them. But they are too happy talking and burping away. I hope they ask me to another movie next Sunday. I had a great day. I don't know about Mel.

A woman 'mal retocada,' the 'retocado' male

It's not the non-lookers who are going for cosmetic surgery

Chit Roces

NOT QUITE THERE

THE LONGER I live, the more convinced I am that life, if you look at it too in parts but in its entirety is indeed fair. Find every consequence, if you look open-eyed enough, presents from some cause or some sense of justice.

Theory

My friend Monina has a theory that tends to inform, if not necessarily support, a theory of my own, for instance, about the distribution of beauty. Here is a theory with a rather cruel twist of divine humor—cruel, by our own merely mortal standards. The pleased to tell me she had realized first hand that those beautiful in their youth grow old, ugly and finally unrecognizable: "Para...pumapangit!"

Hers I was suddenly parked an living company to her self-created misery. I'll never become Tom—dear friend, impersonal, and more modest of saying—was itself not spared. She accused it as the very implementer of nature's vengeance on the once beautiful.

But...if I know Monina, it's really all dead pan, self-deprecating humor, as revealed in her comments implying that she and I were undeserving victims. "Paano naman ngayon sasali sa pageants sila? It's the not-so-pretty ones who are supposed to hardly change with age, who stay recognizable."

She proceeded to do some exhibition-like stares, and studied she and I observed their more recognizable fate on old ages. "Seeing them I say myself no hope sa family!"

This is not exactly the line of my view the my about the own handedness of life, but it's the use of line Monina likes to take...it's light, it's funny and we surely can use some lifting in our age and with our looks.

Unnatural interventions

Lately indeed, I have been seeing too many women whose outstanding beauty has left them, not unnaturally owing to the natural workings of time, but owing, rather, to unnatural interventions. But, again, not always, I think, try to understand the pre-dredged hurdles of beauty itself (consider its slippery count on the face of the earth).

The problem is, like any other measure-a-weak, "elective plastic surgery," as it is professionally called, has no demarcation—progressive demarcation. One op-pair leads to another and another, until the surgeon himself or herself decides to put his final stamp on it.

The plastic surgeon—I know have advised that, contrary to common perceptions, their patients are not the easiest. Just the hesitators themselves. Many of them come for years, they say, and, once denied, end up in the hands of several surgeons likely to botch the job and refuse to do the good.

The final train announces itself when all of them begin to look frighteningly alike. There is, after all, only so much toning and pulling and sagging and tucking that a surgeon can do before the start must be kind the head, and before the eyes lose their ability to close fully in sleep.

The procedure affects facial synchronicity, in that a simple movement of the muscles that produces a natural smile in fact pro-

duces little more than a squinch or wring of the lips at the sides, the eyes, the cheeks, and all the muscles around them unable to cooperate to complete the expression.

Invading beauty parlors

For reluctant expectations hordes of beauty they need, men have themselves been the same way. From they were pre-Tanic, then they are anti-aging creams, then they invade the beauty parlors for the works, which has taken some getting used to for me—in the beginning it felt like shaving underarms. I still don't some unseen sitting beside a tattooed man getting a manicure and pedicure.

Some old fashioned hairdos can, to be sure, have stuck to their barbershop. My own husband, not easy to be online tuned by anything at all, has allowed himself to join me at the beauty parlor for a manage while (I have my hair done—it adds to our quality time. He has also tasted Lenar from the old barbershop for George), my own hairdresser, much younger and clearer-eyed—its time from he One cut that suits his aversion to combing or brushing.

Some men have also crossed the invisible brave separating sexes in manners to do with shaving young and good looking. And I'm not talking about gay hairdressers, whom nowadays I could forgive, but men who have themselves fallen for the extreme vanity once exclusively and ostensibly for women—cosmetic surgery. Among them are politicians and businessmen who now have tiny triangular eyes, whose edges seeming cushion-like, with eyelids rounded out behind buttons, revealing pinkish orange inners.

Whatever for? Why men? Why the precise sex that develops character lines in lieu of wrinkles, mature in lieu of bright (it's and one thinks) with ages, success in lieu of everything else?

Men, unlike us women, more easily take marginal asset-ratio makeup. They stand naked repaired. If there's anything more pathetic than a woman mal retocada, it's the retocado male.

Consumers of the Philippines, unite!

If only companies would aim for customer delight

Manyong Ordoñez

GUT FEEL

JAMES got pissed off with poor service or bad products. I do not take it sitting down. I get on the offensive. I believe that the customer is king.

In 1975, my homestead first-owner (Bill SUN) developed cataracts so extensive that I had to take him to a clinic in Cebu. I brought it to the ER service center, but was told it couldn't be operated because they had no parts.

I was so frustrated I decided to write a nasty letter to the president of ZEN in the US. I told him how my SUN Vue Green Channel service, as I thought it to my neighborhood sari-sari where a friendly tuskanko did a great job fixing my ELO and pipe.

Days later, I got a call from the ZEN service center requesting me to bring my SUN on days could fix it. Moreover, she or him. Mo bulbik, calling big boss mka so Mister.

Burn deal

Service excellence is the hallmark of American businesses. Excellent service is their motto, sometimes, repair shops and maintenance outlets. It's what makes them highly competitive. It's what makes their customers happy and loyal to their brands. It's what makes American products dominate the manufacturing and marketing businesses around the world.

Tell an American waiter that the hamburger is too blah and he'll quickly replace the order, with an apology to boot. Return a newly bought pair of shoes because the waistband is bent and the store will quickly change it.

In America, customers are not taken for granted.

They complain a lot if they get a bum deal. Store managers and service maintenance men know it. It's called "The Customer Is Always Right" rule. In the Philippines, "Ay, hindi ngayon; hindi pala ng mandalaw. Siyempre. Na ehimis."

Bad experience

Nothing beats the bad experience I had in a Makati equipment store years ago. I was shopping for cosmetics and asked the girl in the counter the price. She looked in the direction where a group of salesmen huddled and she hollered, "Bayo, magkano daw ang Bubble?"

Flustered, I asked for the product that costs and she hollered again, "Bayo, ano'ng daw?"

Irritated, I first asking the girl for the product brochure, and she hollered again, "Bayo!"

Before the boys could come, I walked out, mad as hell, swearing never to set foot in that store again.

Our domestic airline is not to be a huge issue. It is caused by overbooking of bargain airline seats and limited airport service capabilities. The current chaos and long delayed flights bring unspeakable suffering to hapless passengers.

Over-the-counter airline people are ill-prepared to handle irate passengers who have missed their flights or get delayed for as long as eight hours. The airport users is so bad that taxpayer authorities were forced to draft and enforce the rights and privileges of airline passengers, with corresponding sanctions for failure to comply.

I remember LTB Co. and RITB Co., the transport hours of my youth. They monopolized transport in the provinces of Laguna, Tayabas and Batangas. Their buses were designed badly. They never built with seats—a true quad (and know-more), hard seats from one side to the other side of the bus. All passengers sat almost at each other. There was no middle aisle, and the ceiling was very low.

If a female passenger was going to alight either land or head has to avoid bumping her head against the ceiling. She had to wiggle her body out, stepped on a toe or feet of her seat mates. She needed acrobatic skills to get down from the side rails. But people get used to it. They never complained.

At that time in America the Greyhound coaches gave travelers well-leather seats with space in the aisle and air-conditioned comfort.

Today, our buses are almost like coaches for tourists with TV, air conditioners, and soft seats. We've done some catching up.

Service

Excellent service is not limited to service staff. It goes all the way back to product quality test, packages and service designs. A computer does not stop improving its products. Ginger Ale is the name of the game.

Take mobile phones, iPads, PCs and laptops. There's a new model every year with new features for better efficiencies and more time-saving devices. It's the same with cars, appliances and furniture. It's the same with home-beautiful needs, toilet bowl and lavatory designs, shower heads, faucets, rails, and tempered glass shower rooms. Everything looks fashionable.

Most manufacturers find it necessary to do total renovations every 25 years, or else, they lose customers to the new stuff, glass and shiny hotels around the corner.

Home runs

The common pursuit of service and product excellence works. I know this from experience. In the 90s, we made a small ad agency, ranked No. 34, but reached to No. 1 by adopting a mission/vision work style of superior service and breakthrough creatives.

To implement our service excellence, we empowered all our teams to establish their own quality goals and to monitor their progress during weekly quality circle meetings.

Team members exercised their powers, resulting in some dramatic performance improvement. Simultaneous with service excellent ratings, we paid our people the highest in the industry. So were our bonuses.

Our breakthrough creative hit home runs in sales. The riders rewarded each creative award or media coup by our runaway market leaders.

In the 80s and 90s, we hit home runs for Feliseldor soap and shampoo, Jollibee burgers and fried chicken, Bonamil, Chicken Joint Juices, Jams and Pop Cola, Magnolia Ice Cream, Dairy Fresh Philippines and Independence Bank of The Philippines.

Store manager

Recently, at Jollibee Pagsanjan, the store manager, a friendly girl, young, raised me naturally, a near-sighted, old bapo. She got one of the tourists, maybe, eyeglasses and asking, "Diane, magpa-kopya. I'll take care of you," she said, showing me two chits.

My order of spaghetti with one-piece Chicken-joy came promptly. I had the most wonderful meal.

Before I left, I praised the store manager for her excellent customer service. She said, "Sir, I'm only doing my job." I told her that months ago, this was the same Jollibee store that disappointed me because they didn't have what I wanted—Coke Zero (out of stock) and Splenda for my coffee (not available).

I told her that if I were the store manager, I would have asked one of the waiters to run to the grocery next door to buy a bottle of Coke Zero and two packets of artificial sweetener, out of her own pocket, just to please one miserable customer, me.

"That's customer delight," I said. Then she asked me, "Sir, Kuya Manoy, big boss at Jollibee, for one bottle of Coke Zero and two packets of Splenda!

I know my good friend, the Tan, a fanatic for service excellence, he will not only reimburse her but also promote her to store manager.

She was smiling when I said good-bye.

E-mail bgordon@gmail.com

Heartbreak, success, loss, adventure —ah, the joy of being jubilarians!

THE HIGH SCHOOL sweetie jubilarians of STC Manila in their '50s rock n' roll outfits (first row, from left) Gloria Salvacion Bagui, Gloria Wilson-Arias, Erlinda Bengco-Caligan, Virgie Divino-Serrano, Carol Briones-Feliciano, Cecilia Magno, Patty Manuspac; (second row) Lilia Evangelista, Susie Diaz-Pineda, the author; (third row) Marilena Lorenzo-de Guzman, Teresita Abere and Linda Cardo-Lupian

By Bettina Rodriguez-Olmedo
Contributor

THERE IS nothing quite like being a jubilarian in your alma mater's homecoming, to experience the joy of reliving your experiences as a student. Imagine, we are celebrating our 50th year after graduation from college. That's half a century ago!

Aside from having a blast from the past recounting our funny and heartwarming experiences during our collegiate days at St. Theresa's College, Lolas enjoyed catching up on the lives of my batchmates, some of whom I had not seen since our graduation. I am struck by the variety of stories represented by their individual lives, which would make for quite an interesting anthology.

Their stories have all the elements of drama—joys as well as heartaches, victories as well as failures, and in some, quite a bit of excitement and adventure.

Survival adventure

For two of them, life has been an storied, fifty exciting adventure with the survival features of a James Bond" thriller.

Bessie de Castro, who lived out her dream of serving our country as a career diplomat with the rank of ambassador, was once assigned to Kenya in South Africa (her residency encompassed adjoining countries, including Somalia).

She once got a frantic call from the office of the honorary consul for the Philippines in Somalia. An oil tanker, with many Filipinos in the crew, had been hijacked by Somali pirates. To make matters worse, the pirates had Internet access to news distilled "Manila," which reported every little plan point toward by the oil company's management in getting concessions from the pirates. These stories only produced a backlash.

Bessie made an SOS call to the sub-Saharan African division at the Department of Foreign Affairs in Manila, asking them to make an urgent appeal to the local press to impose a moratorium on this news. Fortunately, the media relented.

In the aftermath of the crisis came rumors that the stalemate was resolved only when the Somali pirates and the oil company reached a compromise agreement on the ransom price.

Nightmare cruise

Elsie Diaz, meanwhile, was one of the passengers in a luxury liner on a dreamy Mediterranean cruise. The dream turned into a nightmare when the ship docked on the port of Tunisia. While the passengers were relaxing in their cabins, they saw pirates peering through portholes and pointing their machine guns at the passengers' heads!

The pirates herded all the passengers out of their cabins after snatching their valuables....laptops, iPods, iPhones and BlackBerrys, and precious jewelry.

After interminable negotiations, the pirates left the ship after more than 96 hours. It was said that the shipping company sent the pirates halfway in their ransom demand.

Survivors

Someone who has made a 180-degree turnaround in life is Esperanza Fernandez. In college, she was a partygoer, had many suitors, her good looks enhanced by makeup than she learned to apply like a professional stylist.

Today, after a series of failed relationships, Cita has found inner peace and joy by reaching out to others as a preacher in the New Life Christian Church in Malabang, where she conducts counseling sessions for battered wives.

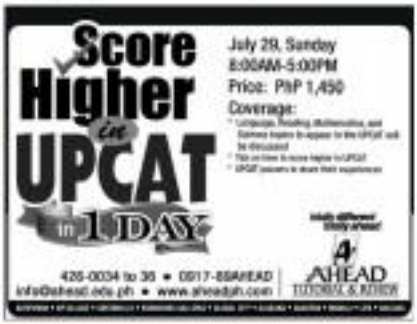
Then there's Gloria Wilson-Arias, one of my most adorable classmates. Gloria used to describe her status as "happily separated" (she was only recently widowed). Gloria has broken new ground among women of her generation, forsaking the fate of the fast-fading "martyr wife" who would endure tragic marriage for the sake of the children.

Today, Gloria takes pride in her children, who have grown into mature and responsible, successful professionals, with-

HEARTBREAK D4

THE COLLEGE queen jubilarians of STC in their Filipiniana dance costumes: Aida Lerios-Nestorina, Bettina Rodriguez-Olmedo, Teresita Padilla-Lingerou, Dacie Herrera-Arcenas and Vicky Lourdes Pura

We have learned life's greatest lesson: Happiness is not a situation, but a decision



Now, there's a new reason for Parañaque dwellers to smile. Last April 20, Shakey's has opened a new cozy and roomy restaurant at Olivarez Plaza. Here, you can expect the same excellent service and mouth-watering Shakey's all-time favorites. What's more is that the 401 sqr sqm space can accommodate up to 200 people, making it the perfect venue for your parties, important functions or to just hang out with your companions.

So the next time you're in the area and you find yourself craving for some real thick overstated Thin Crust Pizza, Chicken na Mapa, there's a place that can definitely make you happy, may it be for Dine-in, Carry-Out or Delivery (simply dial 71-7777). So come on over and experience Fun, Family Pizza at Shakey's Olivarez Plaza Parañaque now!

One more 'Tatang' story

Plus, his special prayer

June Keithley Castro

SHINE

THERE WAS such interest in my column on Fr. Jaime Bravo that I had to curb my brain crying to surrender more stories, but I must be "true hard" as it doesn't seem to respond.

I do remember, though, when Ambassador Mercy and I went to his 92nd birthday lunch. When we walked in, as we liked "Troubled was singing "Ol' the Silver When We Live" and I couldn't resist but join in and our voices soared!

Afterward, my crying called me over. I thought he was going to praise me as he hadn't heard me sing in years—but, no such luck. Instead, I was scolded for joining loud in song: he told me point blank that it was a song to be sung by a male and I shouldn't have sung along!

I was so amazed that was so wrong, all right!

I include now his prayer—one we prayed at every rehearsal, performance, Mass, conference. May it bring you grace.

Bravo's prayer:

Look down upon us, this day, this hour. Regardless of what has gone before, or what will come after, give us the grace to consecrate this time entirely to You...all the actions of our body and soul.

May all the thoughts that come to our be true.

May all the things we submit our hearts go out be beautiful, with the beauty of God.

May all the things we want be good.

Give us the light to see Your will, the grace to love it, and the courage and strength to do it.

We ask You this through Christ Our Lord.

Amen.

James B. Bravo, S.J.

Heartbreak, success, loss, adventure...

Breaking page 000

sue bitterness or resentment against their absentee father.

Vivid memory

Another survivor is Shalimi Quezon-Sirib. I remember an experience I shared with Shalimi and other naughty classmates in Assisium I in junior high school.

Because we felt so oppressed by our homeroom teacher and overall supervisor, Mother Eleanora, we came up with a newsletter with satirical articles and graphic illustrations that spoofed her unreasonable strictures. One art director then became one of the country's renowned artists, Ofelia Gelvezon-Regis.

Unfortunately, the newsletter landed in the hands of Mother Eleanora. After giving us a sermon (which closed doors that lasted two hours, she named what was then considered a humiliating penalty: suspension from the holiday.

Shalimi has matured into a woman with newly determination and great courage forged through life's vicissitudes. She survived the painful death of her young daughter who was hit by a bus as she was riding a bike that had just been given her by her grandma as her birthday. Marilen also took loving care of her husband through his lingering illness.

True confessions

Another survivor whose story has a twist, not unlike that of a telenovela, is Virginia Dimayuga regaled us with her "true confessions," recalling the heavy situations she found herself in as a virgin bride—at the age of 60. We broke into laughter when she made an intimate revelation: "Guess ang pulot ng gamot—nakakaiwas rin!" (In this all there is to it? When you keep doing it over and over, it gets to be having after a while!)

And when they were booking the John Enrigh-La ballroom for their dream wedding, the banquet reservation-office asked her if she and her fiancé were celebrating their golden anniversary!

Success stories

One of the biggest success stories is that of Patricia Licuanan-Fortuno, who I believe is the most outstanding Theresian of our generation. Today, Tatz has reached the apex of her career, having been appointed by President Aquino to head the Commission on Higher Education.

Our valedictorian too, Rina Marquez-Bermejillo, has a distinguished lineage, coming from one of the country's most prominent families who own and manage St. John's Academy, which provides quality education at very reasonable tuition.

Susie Herrera-Antonio, another famous class leader, is president of "Bonus Mulieres," a group of Theresian whose advocacy is to work for reform, ranging from good governance to women's rights.

Susie's determination inspired us to work through what frustrates call the "glass ceiling" in the male-dominated workplace, as the only woman to sit on the board of Cubao Philippines Inc.

Linda Cuesta-Lupton has proven herself as a stage therapist, a visual artist, an advertising executive and loving mother to three wonderful adults. Her biggest role was in creating the famous play "The Glass Menagerie" by Tennessee Williams.

Widowed some years ago, Chito Panganiban-Cruel resents the treasures of the electromechanical contracting company established by her husband. Angela Reyes-coda-Lorenzo is an experienced jeweler who buys and sells diamonds. However, she considers her four lovely daughters as her most fabulous treasures.

Modern fairy tales

The purest girl of the '50s, Josie Padilla was the embodiment of the aspirations of teenagers of that era. She had a lovely face, a good head on her shoulders, plus bushes of actin- ness. From Assisium and La Salle. After a dream wedding with a smashingly handsome guy, the "crash of hopes"—Ernest Sullivan—she settled down and raised a brood of several.

Chit Reyes-Santos is a gorgeous person whose Legarda-Jacinto genes gave her a splendid inheritance.

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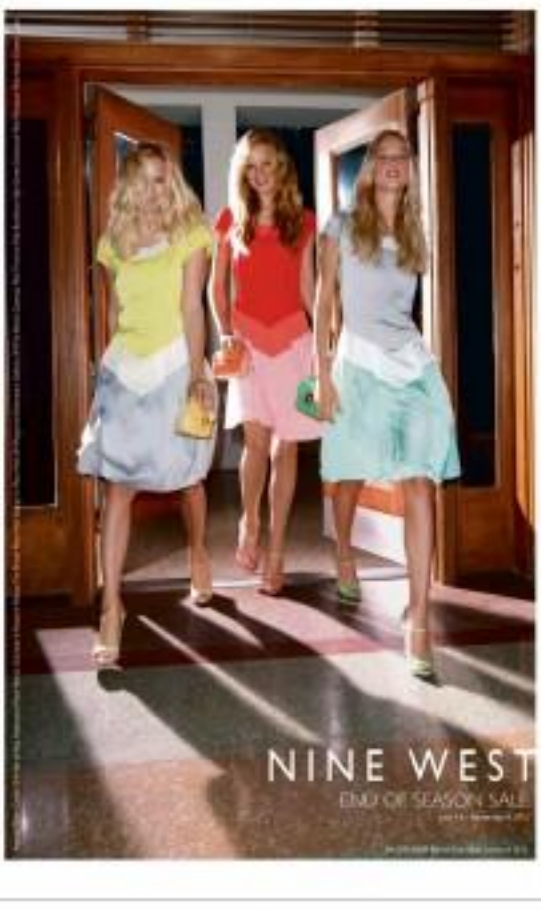
Looking back over the past 30 years since our graduation from college, my batchmates and I have learned life's greatest lessons. Happiness is not a situation, but a decision. Then, we are determined not only to survive but to thrive, to live what to some, be survival and achieve life.

All of us have been through a lot, but hey, look...we're none the worse for wear!



'Justice for Women' at PWU

THE FORUM "JUSTICE for Women" will be held on July 3, 8 a.m., at the Conrado Benitez Hall of the Philippine Women's University (PWU), Taft campus, Manila, with Reynato S. Puno, former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, as keynote speaker. Human Rights Commission Chair Loretta Ann Rosales will give a message on "Empowering Women's Access to Justice."

Organized by the Helena Z. Benitez Center for Human Rights and Gender Equality, headed by Dean Ambassador Rosario Manalo, the forum aims to "help bridge the gap between the theoretical cognitions of justice for women and its practical and systematic fulfillment."

Speakers and their topics are Rep. Leonardo Roque, vice chair of the Committee on Women and Gender Equality ("Legislating Justice for Women"); Supreme Court Justice Adolfo Azcuna ("Adjudicating Justice for Women"); and Secretary Leila de Lima of the Department of Justice ("Administering Justice for Women").

Asia Jean Wanlayon of the UN Women Philippines will deliver the Women's Report on Justice for Women, while Dean Lucelyn Sobrevilla of the UP Asian Center will preside over the panel discussions in the afternoon.

The panel is composed of Justice Gus Gallega of the Court of Appeals, lawyer Myrna Feliciano of the Supreme Court and Romulo Bibiano, chair of the Philippine Commission on Women.

Members of the panel include Executive Director Lee Gatbalt; lawyers Amparita Sta. Maria, Katrina Legarda, Evelyn Cruz, Claire Feliciano, John Pinsent, Pamelita Ruffolo; and Sr. Supt. Maria Asuncion Aquino and Senior Insp. Dennis Cid.

The forum closes with inspirational remarks by PWU board chair Dr. Helena Z. Benitez. Dr. Soveni Guerrero emcees.

Museo Pambata's July activities

Museo Pambata (MP) turns the spotlight on children's books this July.

July 1, 1 p.m.—The Museo Pambata Guides' Corner invites kids from children's centers and groups to a party that encourages the value of recycling and environmental conservation. Fun games and activities await guests.

July 14, 10 a.m.—A visually-impaired librarian and kid puppeteer from Singapore will be launching the Philippine edition of "Pagdiri ko, Sandri ko: Magiting Librarian."

July 21, 9 a.m.—The Mobile Library celebrates its anniversary month with lots of exciting activities and prizes.

July 7, 10 a.m.—Kwento sa Museo holds a storytelling session.

July 21, 10 a.m.—Kidlit diskusi on Philippine literature.

July 27, 2 p.m.—Make picture frames from recyclable materials with guides in an Arts and Crafts session.

July 28, 10 a.m.—Join a storytelling session about a young girl who learns to read Tagalog upon her arrival in the US.

"Wait Till Tatay Gets Me Up" is written by Jessie and Arvoka Lumbera, illustrated by Lyn Flores and published by Adarna House Inc.

Storytelling time is held every Saturday morning at 10 a.m.

Museo Pambata is at Roxas Blvd. cor. South Drive, Ermita. Hours: from Tuesday to Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday. All activities are for free with admission (P100 for both children and adults). Manila residents with valid IDs may come in for free during Sundays and avail of a 50-percent discount on other days.

Call 523-1741 to 50 or 5300696, or e-mail info@museopambata.org.

Students celebrate Nutrition Month

The National Nutrition Council (NNC) of the Department of Health launches Nutrition Month on July 2. Theme is "Pagkaing pagkayaman, anak-araw ang kinabukasan." The nationwide celebration kicks off with a vegetable-planting event in Concepcion Elementary School, Marikina. Health Secretary and NNC Chair Enrique Ona leads the event. Nutrition Month promotes the consumption of vegetables among children as part of a healthy diet.

Cake seminar set

The Golden Treasures Skills and Development Program will conduct a one-day seminar on all-occasion cake decorating on July 14, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., at the College of Social Work and Community Development, Magsaysay Ave., cor. Ylanan St., University of the Philippines, Diliman, QC. For inquiries, call 4711117, 3361826 and 9128031 or log on to mara.golden@secure24dsl.com.

Sunday LIFESTYLE

IN THIS ISSUE
■ Searching for the perfect gift for my less-exciting half /F1

The nurturers, the virgins and the monsters

To be young, artistically inclined and female, and interpret women in these interesting ways

By Elizabeth Lolarga
Contributor

ADDY MANANGGAL who must've done workouts in a local gym in the daytime when she's in human form, god-desses captured in their youth before they became immortals, monsters so cute they're good enough to cuddle and present as a gift to a young child—these inventive images by Tin Garcia, Julio Shen, Gabrielle Lopez and Katrina Pallon are showing at Secret Fresh Gallery in Greenhills, San Juan City.

When one meets the four, who are garbed in gothic-inspired rascals, with one (Garcia) sporting "Alice in Wonderland" tattoos on her full arms, including Lewis Carroll's line from the same book, "I'll be judge, I'll be jury' said the cunning old fury," somehow one expects them to do works that are dark and disturbing, along the lines of vampires and werewolves.

When one learns that some of them belong to rock bands that carry names such as Bad Days for Mary, Scarlet Tears and Narcotic Moon, these expectations are reinforced.

Ironically, these four women avoid eating meat (three are omnivores, one is pesco-vegetarian) and think one of the advantages of being single is hanging out to cuddle and chatting. Garcia, the oldest in the group at 30, speaks for the others—"We're kinda boring. We're not party people, we're our night persons. We just like to sweet tea dinner and coffee afterward."

These "boring" artists have filled up the single wall space of the year-old gallery with interpretations of women as nurturers, virgins and monsters.

In their statement, they wrote that "the exhibit is more than a static exploration of roles, however. Myths are meant to be passed down from storyteller to storyteller, causing archetypes to mutate with each telling. The artists assume their positions in the chain of myth-making, and create fresh narratives for these mothers, virgins and monsters. The results are at once rewarding, empowering, beautiful and deeply affecting."

Born, 23, a communications graduate of La Salle and former graphic designer for a Filipino website that offers deals, is a self-taught painter. Admitting she's not as organized as the others, she chose watercolor and pencils to do portraits of goddesses of war from different cultures. Only this time,

"SHAWN the Rabbit Head" by Kat Pallon

GREAT SALE
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OUR HOME

KATRINA Pelon with Vanessa in acrylic-Julie Shen and Obsidian Butterfly

To be young, artistically inclined, and female

From page E1

they are portrayed as young girls.

She imagines them this way, saying, "If they were among us, it would be interesting to bring them down from their royal pedestals and look at them as girls. I often see women as being either down-trodden, virgins or monsters. Maybe that is why such archetypes exist since the beginning of language and tales. It seems to make us women appear as unacceptable. Perhaps a woman, and she becomes a monster. More powerful of all is the instinct. Without her, we are nothing."

Subtext

She doesn't strive for cute in how she dressed up as a winged creature or what's called a "faerie" or blank canvas doll. She says, "In storytelling, it's about subtext, layers and twists that make the characters more interesting. Monsters come in different faces and forms. Perhaps they are not the monsters; sometimes the spectators are. There is no proper good and evil in my work."

Eunos says her group picked the collabit title from an article on the web http://www.helium.com/items/1983695-classical-2a-mythology. She did research on Philippine mythology and found lovely roles that "seemed quite locally with the personal interpretation of the creatures I painted. I am inclined to believe that once a largely a matriarchal society rather than a mainstream one, and the roles of nurturer, virgin and mentor are preexisting. I do not think I am in any way trying to redefine these perceptions. From me I try to shed new light, by way of composition, illumination and paint."

Like the works of the other three, Eunias's naked-mella paintings all glow with an otherworldly luminescence. Even her knives are almost baroque in their gilded colors, like fine

"DURGA" by Julie Shen

"SERAPHIC" "Kapagalan" and "Pwaja" by Julie Shen

Cursed

Of her paintings of Greek goddesses and a small mermaid named Sunny she says, "The mythological characters always considered heroes as part of the work, and patronize a Christian theme shop that does those elaborate frames.

In explaining why her "Mamuyanang gal," a collaboration with her boyfriend Inigo de Pesio, is shown as more as a fully-fitty mix in a character out of the bubble show "Sesame Street," she quotes John Dewey's line: "Mythology is all about our fears and our hopes."

She says, "The creature monsters I painted deep as well to show our fears and hopes and humor and glamour. I chose to portray these monsters the same way fashion magazines would want to portray their models. I wanted to take the monsters out of their commonly perceived context by adding a humorous rebellious to the theme of transforming into a leggy humanoid and glam. our (a cutesy mamuyanang) recalling the birth of Venus as she spikes in half."

Eunos, 27, a Fine Arts graduate of the University of the Philippines Diliman and graphic artist for the website www.thelatestcrush, says the exhibit did not alter her perception of women. She says, "It hasn't really changed, but I thought it was an interesting take on the female archetype in myths as opposed to the usual maiden, mother, crone."

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Unused any paintings on were all named into a nonhuman form. So instead of depicting them as monsters, I chose to glamorize them."

Pelon's highly detailed paintings with bronze outlines of figures that are sometimes two dimensional are heavily influenced by the art nouveau movement. The painter confesses admiration for the works of Gustav Klimt and Frida Kahlo.

Like her friends, she has a day job to support her art making. Pelon, 26, does graphic design, photography, illustration, and video and web. Also, online shop for the latter is at www.tuesdaysatmidnight.com and www.tuesdaysatmidnight.wordpress.com.

Like the women on the walls, the three are not to be messed around with. They've studied boxing. Pelon and Shen are into pro boxing, a mixed martial arts sport practiced by Gracie Jiu-Jitsu. They say it's still not well known, but it has real-life applications.

Pelon says, "It's a real world out there with no rules, no referees."

So should she and Shen ever have to defend themselves against an attacker, they will go for the eyes, groin and other vulnerable spots without a second's hesitation.

The exhibit is ongoing until July 17. *Secret Fruit Gallery is in the basement of the Ronac Art Center, Greenhills, San Juan City; tel. 5796415 local 7; e-mail secretfruitgallery@gmail.com.*

Praying for the gift of healing

By Fr. Tito Caluag
Contributor

ONE OF THE MOST common and yet profoundly humbling requests we get as priests are requests for prayers. It is even more humbling when the request for prayers is for the healing of someone.

Healing lies at the core of Christ's mission. Scott Hahn's classic work bound fully states this in the title of the book, "The Wounded Healer." I believe all mission, our personal mission or vocation or purpose, is a sharing in and a continuation of Christ's mission. Thus, all mission is healing in nature.

The default understanding of healing involves physical ailment, but more and more we understand healing in a psycho-emotional and spiritual. At our views of the person becomes more holistic, we see healing that leads to wholeness. From this wholeness, holiness in the spiritual sense occurs.

This Sunday's Gospel narrates two dramatic healing stories. Their drama lies not only in the healing, but also in the placebo's.

Jairus, the synagogue official, begs on behalf of a loved one, his 12-year-old daughter. He succumbs all things—his social status, his pride and prejudice—for the sake of a loved one. Not only does he beg, but also he falls at Christ's feet.

The woman suffering from hemorrhages for 12 years squeezes herself into the crowd at the earnest hope she could at least touch the tassel of Christ's robe. This reminds you of the woman who tells Christ, in another narrative, that even the dogs get a share of the meal from the scraps that fall from the table.

Dramatic portraits of humility. Dramatic portraits of hope. These merit dramatic graces of healing.

There is much to learn from these narratives in our own journey toward healing, in our journey to live a mission-inspired life.

The Filipino word for healing adds an insight to this piece, *pagpapagaling*. To heal and to make whole and to the process being conscious but maybe even the obedience he/she was meant to live out; guiding our gifts/dons, our core excellences.

Recently, I started a formation program for 150 teachers and their principals from five public schools in a city north of Manila, with the assistance of Magis. The program holds the belief that formation is about self-awareness and self-acceptance that leads to healing and wholeness, the first two stages of formation. We looked at Jesus, in another narrative, that even the dogs get a share of the meal from the scraps that fall from the table.

The third stage of a mission-inspired life naturally flows from the experience of healing and wholeness. For the reader, teachers and principals, we set a specific moment for their mission, the mission to care in education, loving students into excellence. This is a formation program primarily based on the mission statement.

Ignatius was very keen on self-awareness. It was the starting point of formation and many close to 500 years later, even the recent, i.e., two or three decades old, Reid of Seal, ending studies have many of its scholars reaching a conclusion that good leadership begins with good self-awareness.

The drama of the plea for healing of James and the hope of the woman to Christ show us the depth of their self-awareness. Note that they had the resources to address their needs and when they did everything they could, they discovered what was essential.

Fr. Roque Ferriols, S.J., used to tell us in our philosophy classes: "Minsan nang masabi ang labas ng sasasabi, ang pinakamahirap ay hindi nasasabi." (After you say everything that could be said, the most important or essential cannot be said or spoken.) This is the depth of self-awareness Jairus and the woman reached in coming to Christ.

This is the depth of faith and hope that people who surrender to ask for prayers for healing really ask for. Prayers for healing really ask for. Prayers for healing really ask for.

Piolo, be ready to work hard—and grapple with an exec

BLUNSIE PIOLO Pascual has reached a **turning point in his cycle. there may be** some big decisions he has to make, particularly regarding which country he prefers to spend most of his time in. Hard work is on the cards, but by the same token, new, joyful opportunities in the coming months/ years. His relationships are very private so he shuns the media when it comes to his personal affairs. For the time being, **he may have to grapple with an executive** or corporate problem, which is stemming from a clash of egos.

Aries

You are impulsive just now, especially in matters of love and friendship. Shooting from the hip is not advisable. You may be baffled by unintelligible talk this week, even though it doesn't seem meaningless to the one doing the talking. The question is, how much time can you spend dealing with people who are talking nonsense?

Taurus

It's a new week, which means you'll need to make a daring bid for new beginnings. This has more to do with your emotional connection to others than anything else. Dust off those old photographs and memorabilia in the attic or the basement because the past has some appeal to you this week. You'll have fun, albeit quietly, by yourself, rummaging through these old memories.

Gemini

You may need to start a new program, **a** fitness **r**egime your resolutions notwithstanding. Nothing yourself of bad habits is on your mind. If admission to what you're after during this cycle, the law of the universe is that you must first purify it in others. Try this even though it seems to be back to front.

Cancer

You need to be verbally engaged, intellectually plugged in, and luminously entertained with friends. You will expand your social circle now. Try not to be infatuated by what everyone else is doing this week but focus on what you have to create. Re-invest all your selves are satisfied, **no** before you start!

Dadhichi Toth

LOVE HOROSCOPE

Leo

If you're felt apprehensive about telling someone how you feel about them, gather your courage together and just do it! Fear is your only enemy this week. You also need to wear antiquity knee-diving garments because you may not be aware right clothing is affecting your moods and even your physical well-being. Rethink your wardrobe.

Virgo

You'll get what you want this week but may be **less than satisfied** once you have it. Be careful what you desire. You may learn **what** you want to say in a certain situation but will be too slow off the mark to do it. You could miss an opportunity but at least a valuable lesson will be learned.

Libra

Something you said recently may be repeated but it will not be conveyed accurately and will be difficult to find out who the culprit is. You need to give more attention to your financial affairs and some quick thinking on your part will open doors you hadn't even considered.

Scorpio

An increase in love and affection is just around the corner, but you need to be prepared to ask the right questions. Don't take anything on a close and until you get to know someone better. You could be finding fuzzy-headed this week as well as restless. Don't let relationships detract how you feel. You are the master of your destiny.

Sagittarius

It's not a good idea to mix alcohol with social responsibilities for the time being. Forget about what you've heard, **be careful of the go-betweens in** investments. If you are in the mood for Mr. or Miss Right, it's all the more important to study the messages. Extra **scrutiny may be needed now.**

Capricorn

You can have a bright and inspiring time and workplace affairs will bring you a great deal of fun and satisfaction. You need to feel good about yourself, so if you've been neglected, now is the time for that beauty treatment or quiet weekend away. You may make great strides in any form of relationship.

Aquarius

You may be annoyed at someone calling on you unexpectedly. You see this as a remark of disrespect. Don't be attractive say as if you're not in the mood to hang out with people. You'll need to deal with someone on the homefront, a family member requires some assistance with a nagging problem.

Pisces

You feel confident but others may not be seeing this. You have to accentuate to reflect this fact. You could be self-righteous this week, believing that your position is completely correct. You may be surprised to learn there is another way of seeing things. You're having powerful dreams which can be premonitions of things to come.

Your Karma: Q&A with Dadhichi

Hi Dadhichi,

I am a Scorpio and having very difficult, troubled times right now. My old love, the love of my life, came back into the picture and we are desperately trying to make something positive out of it. But many hands will fall if we do. —Peace Lit, Taal

This is your life and the decisions you make, although impacting others, are primarily for you to experience. Focus what I can see, his and your family, in particular, are trying to emotionally blackmail you and it's upon you to stand up to this and fulfill your destiny, especially if you both love each other. These people will eventually come around. Good luck. Regards, Dadhichi.

Dadhichi is director of www.astrologer.com.au. You can contact Dadhichi at dadhichi@astrologer.com.au.

MAFBEX 2012's Back to Basics, An Organic Success of food and trends

Food and beverage professionals and enthusiasts got treated to a foodie trips on the latest technology and innovations of the industry at the 5th Manila Foods and Beverages Expo (MAFBEX) held recently at the World Trade Center in Pasay City. The theme of this year's expo was "Back to Basics" which was done in response to the current trend of growing consumer preference for food products that are more natural and less processed.

"Filipinos are some of the biggest foodies in the world. As such, we have kept up with the global trends in the industry and lately there has been a greater demand for food products made from exotic, organic and newly undiscovered ingredients. This year's theme reflects this sentiment as we find a balance of combining these discovered, internationally-renowned, rich and exquisite grating tips and techniques on how best to take advantage of this natural bounty," said Wendilyn Ortiz, International Marketing Director of Informa Asia.

Organized by the same, Canada-based exhibition and trade show organizer, Wendilyn Ortiz-led International (WIL) – MAFBEX 2012 was the most comprehensive food show in the country with over 300 booths showcasing the best the special has to offer, for those who prefer to shape healthier living. It has exhibitors and participants from the Do La Salle–College of Saint Benilde (DLS-CSB) and for the benefit of the DLS-CSB Foundation.

Top international and locally renowned chefs joined the stage in "Chefs of the World" as they showcased the latest recipes and ingredients in the world of food. The expo also featured the internationally renowned kitchen master chefs from Del Monte, Jeremy Favis, Myrtle Arias, Reggie Cuna, Myrna Pua, and Alex Chang, among many others as they show off skills in cooking dishes with seasonal components.

This year's expo also featured an international pavilion of countries like Singapore, Korea, Malaysia, Taiwan, Japan, USA, and Europe offering unique delicacies and ingredients from all over the world. Brought together in a melting pot of exotic flavors made available at the show.

To highlight the diversity of the newly professional and culinary experts from Do La Salle – College of Saint Benilde conducted their culinary competition among the students. Food is a Culinary Living Treasure by DLS Benilde Bachelor's Philippine Gastronomy, to reveal adventure in Tastes and Taste Buffet and many more.

The country's top food distributors were also at hand selling imported goods at discounted prices. Visitors enjoyed easy-to-buy, ready-to-cook, ready-to-prepare products that defined the global trend of flavors as is one of a kind gourmet experience.

"The knowledge of having enjoyed a positive event, also brings joy to many people and that much confidence and about MAFBEX because since part of the preparation of the event was made in MIS-CSB Foundation, this proves that, while Filipinos love food, the love for helping the needy is also inside us all love," Ortiz concluded.

The gut absorbs everything, the happy and the sad

ROOTS AND WINGS

Cathy Babao-Tanhueco

I have always taught my children to dump the negativity elsewhere before coming to the table

ARTIST and author Dante Ariel Ruiz-Isaac Kennedy aka Sark, wrote that to lose a child, a parent must do three things.

The three, (at least) hang on pain and pain. If they're crabby, put them in water. Read aloud with joy. Encourage silly Giggle a lot. Search out the positive. Trash feelings. Stop yelling. Surprise them. Express your love. A lot.

She has succeeds on a lot of my daughter and our dating conditions as home. Over dinner or lunch, every one gets equal time to talk about how the day has been, to share a successor really funny story. Sometimes my son, who is very witty will say something that will crack us up. Other times, I will say something unintentionally (like mistaking a birthstone for an Omegash Jumpsuit) that will crack them both up.

We talk about films, TV shows, news, and the books we all love.

The college pre-med and history major will share either some bacteria we've been studying in medicine, like lipogenesis, or tidbit in Philippine history we are all hearing about for the first time.

The teenager will talk about the latest movie and dissect, review and dissect it to him, or sing praises to it, as his mother and sister are left in awe of the awakenings of his astute 13-year-old brain.

Over meals, no topic is spared. We talk religion, politics, history, business, psychology and, yes, biology. Discussions about the reproductive health bill, ironically, made our pro-need students all queasy. Our younger brother and I like to tilt her about it—"Can you please take your conversation elsewhere?" she would tell us.

In the novel, "the Heart Is Chocolate" by Laura Esquivel, Tita, the main protagonist, discovers how her feelings are transmitted into the food she cooks.

Pleasant thoughts

We serve some to the dining table angry or upset. For always held on to the belief that meals must always be relished in the spirit of love and nurture, wrapped in happy and pleasant thoughts.

I make sure that our joys cook is kept happy, too. It has been a blessing that her self absorbs and her dispositions can brighten up even the stormiest of days.

Stress and anger must never have a place at the table so that food and nourishment will always be associated with good cheer.

The few times I've sat at the table upset over something, I'd end up with a bad stomach.

Thus, I have always taught my children to dump the negativity elsewhere in a creative or productive manner before coming to the table because they get absorbs everything, both the happy and the sad.

Technology has no place at our table. Mobile phones, earphones and other gadgets are banned and no work during meals, especially when we're celebrating. It's all of a time to bond and be fully engaged in one another's life and matters definitely not a time to multitask or tune out.

Whether at home or dining out, we do food themes now and then—Italian, Thai, Pinoy Italian and, our all-time favorite, Spanish. Everyone is assigned a banner dish according to theme.

The luxury-major daughter will usually do a spin on the country whose cuisine is being featured, then we either decorate a bash or watch a good DVD film, or talk about no issue related to the country whose food we are feasting on.

There of course, because of our genetic pool, and just like every other Pinoy family, we have the occasional meal where we talk about the latest showbiz happenings.

Do we think our family problems ever recede? Never. But we always or after family issues have been ironed out and we try to make those meals as pleasant and peaceful as possible.

Is it not too late to apologize?

EMILY'S POST

Emily A. Marcos

DEAR EMILY,

When my 15-year-old daughter got pregnant by a boy from a very poor family in our town, we insisted her to my country care in the province until she gave birth and finished her college education years. We couldn't accept, or have anything to do with, the very low status of the boy's family. His mother was a vegetable vendor who sold her produce on the market. Image that were almost certain, the father was a part-time janitor in a local barber shop and his three siblings, though all students, studied in public schools. Our family had a name and a respectable business, and they were definitely not our equal.

The boy pleaded with my daughter to elope with him and have a family together, but we decided for her. He wouldn't even allow him to see his baby or his parents who begged at the baby's christening when we were away. That's not for her a long while until he and her family finally gave up—never seeing the baby up close or even cuddling him.

Years passed and my stubborn daughter married an OFW finally, he deserved her with gifts when he'd come home. We were glad for her because we thought she'd found a man suited to her, at last. He told her he finished engineering only to be stored later that he was just a truck driver who got his job in the Middle East only because he was recommended by a friend, a supervisor in the company. He barely finished high school. For years, he was fired because he was always drunk. When he came home, he had no savings, and couldn't find work. He finally landed a job as a family driver.

The boy who got my daughter pregnant, who worked only to help to support his education, graduated college with honors, got a scholarship for his MBA abroad, came home and is now a partner in a reputable corporation. All his siblings got overseas jobs, bought their own and together pooled their resources to buy their parents a very nice house in a subdivision in our province.

As for us, the fortunes of my family took a very bad turn. The businesses we thought would go on forever went bankrupt. Our home and other properties had to be sold at a huge loss, and now my husband and I live with a married daughter who has no kids. My other children aren't doing very well either.

Never in my wildest dreams did I think we'd be in this position. Isn't life crazy? In my lonely moments, I want to apologize to this boy, now a man, and tell him and his family how wrong we were to have treated them the way we did. He already has a family of his own. He can see of studies, now in his early 30s, has a family himself, and I thought we'd be sure if father and son got together. Finally, I know it is embarrassing but should I try it anyway?

—REGRET TO HAVE

No, not! He can't! Crazy fan, that is. Everything is in moment that, and whoever thinks otherwise is delusional. Of course you can apologize. Saying sorry and meaning it, is always nice. Only fools and morons who have their hearts in the right place could otherwise. But honestly now—can your heart and hope to die—would you be thinking of offering this apology if the boy did not become the success that he is today? Would it even have crossed your mind?

Whatever creative thoughts you're spinning in your head—just think it's never too late to express your regret. Your karma will thank you, your stressed veins and arteries will thank you, the world will thank you, and you'll thank you. This huge boulder of guilt will be lifted from your bosom and your positive energy will start flowing again. It's been dragged up all these years and there's nothing like confessing the sin, the regretting and wishing for love.

It's the admission, the owning up that you did someone wrong. But you made certain people very unhappy and—that you're finally saying sorry is so liberating. Your stressed friends people clear up the air as one writer said, "If I've learned one lesson from all that's happened to me, it's that there is no such thing as the biggest mistake of your existence. There's no such thing as ruining your life. Life's a pretty resilient thing, it turns out."

So let it. Go enjoy. Let good situations fill your heart again.

E-mail emarcos@inquirer.com.ph or emarcos62@gmail.com. Subject: Ipkapo

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Sunday LIFESTYLE

Searching for the perfect gift for my less-exciting half

My hubby Dennis says I make up enough excitement and extravaganza for the entire family, so his role is to be boring and steady

TESSA I. TRIAS-PRIETO-VALDES

BEHIND AND half the year is gone.

Today is the beginning of the 2nd and of 2012. It's also the birthday of my hubby Dennis, my less-exciting half. He says I make up enough excitement and extravaganza for the entire family, so his role is to be the boring and steady one, the simple, boring husband and voice of discipline to the kids.

How do I find a birthday present for him? He is the type to just save money instead of buying a gift. Bec like all men, he has a weakness for gadgets.

The more keen and luxurious is the device, the higher the desire. Tech geek is the only thing where men throw away the value for money argument and get into the usual haven of life.

I was thinking of this as I attended the launch of the Samsung Notebook at the Manila Peninsula Hotel. An update, the functionality of an item is measured by its thinness. In this case 14.9 mm, and weighs 1.38kg, and in both, unlike the Samsung Series 9 is true. It is the world's thinnest and lightest 13" notebook.

The product demo was elevated by the late Steve Jobs into performance art, and it was great to see luminating business man director Eric Baliz channeling his late companion as he went through the Samsung's capabilities.

There were so many products to go through, including the Series 5 Ultra and Series 5 Slate, plus the Wireless Printer and Samsung Smart Station Monitor.

All these are powered by Intel processors and have environmental economy of gigabytes. The screens are extremely bright and the devices super fast. You can really see how in the bright we will no longer be using desktop computers, and even laptops are becoming too big.

As with all luminaire in our

SEARCHING P2

Purported HR Ocampo works to undergo test

THE NATIONAL Museum will conduct laboratory tests on a collection of works purportedly by HR Ocampo to determine their authenticity.

Last week leading art collectors and Juvet author expressed doubts about the genuineness of the works despite the fact they had been authenticated by a relative of the late National Artist for the Visual Arts.

The works are on display at Greenbelt 5 in an exhibit organized by the spouse of a former high-ranking government official.

Guests in the exhibit opening shrugged leading culture figures who then vowed to

investigate to check out the collection. Most of them shared the belief that the works were of dubious origin.

In the midst of the collector, a be readily agreed to have the works undergo laboratory test.

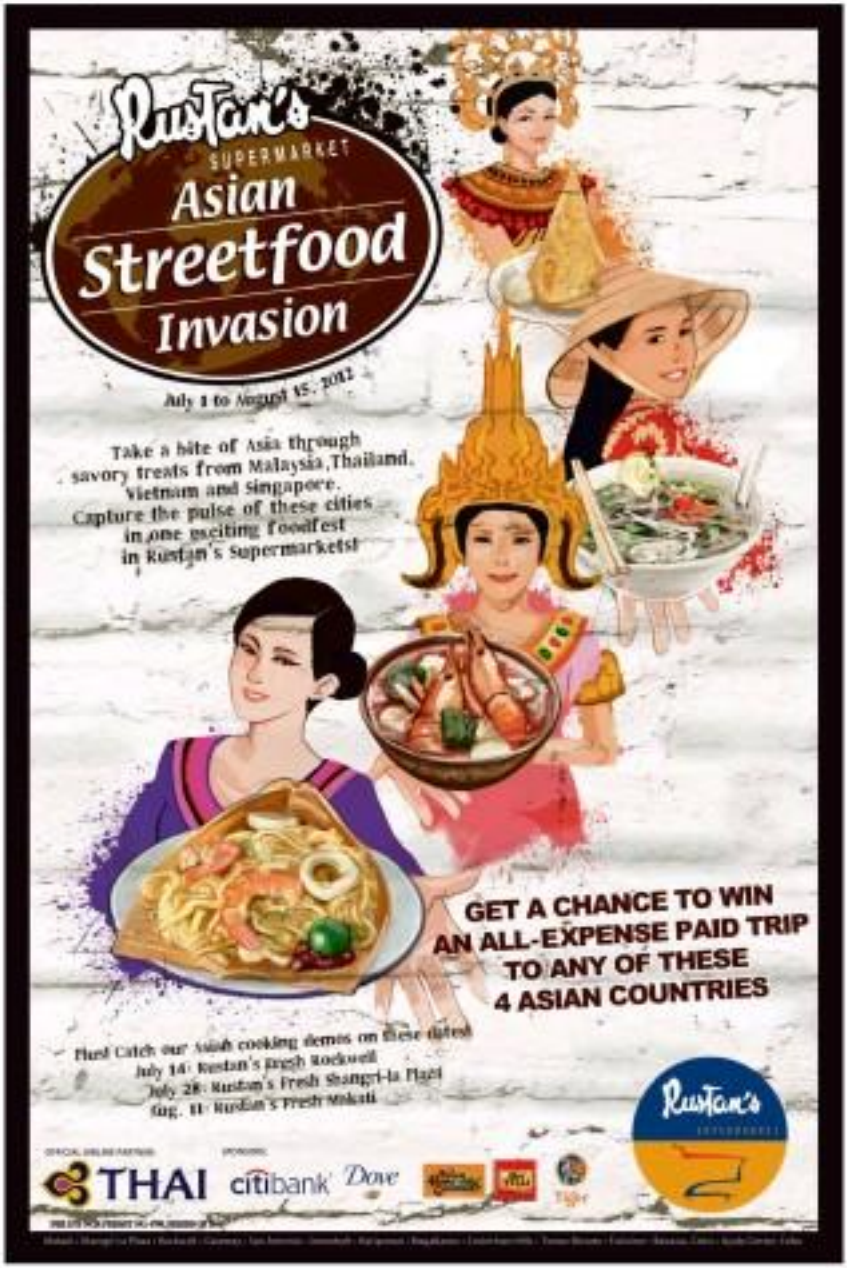
Just recently, the Friends of Manansala, an organization of art lovers and collectors of National Artist for Visual Arts Vicente Silva Manansala's art proclamation, sought the removal of an artwork called "The Bird Seller" from an auction catalogue of Christie's Hong Kong.

Lorna pushes for art registry

Because of the Christie's incident, Sen. Loren Legarda has sought the creation of a National Registry for Fine Art that will diversify existing Filipino artworks and guard against the production, proliferation and sale of their forgeries.

Legarda, chair of the Senate Committee on Cultural Communities, has filed Senate Resolution No. 803, which directs the Senate Committee on Education, Arts and Culture to strengthen the Philippine Registry of Cultural Property by creating a National Registry for Fine Art.

The senator said she encourages living artists to register their artworks in the proposed National Registry for Fine Arts through the Philippine Registry of Cultural Property to provide information and reference on the provenance of important works.



SMILING family Bally Tavarro, Paolo Pineda, Donna Bansemuka, Bianca Lanza, Sea Princess, Odette Velarde, Bianca Fernandez, Precious Muslina

WATER Exhibition: 1 Frederick Peralta, Sea Princess, Camille Patricia Mallapi, Allan Hayes Lee Abreo, Mercedes Gutierrez, Mely Abbas-Lee, Bee Fortelles, Michael Canenberg, Dominic Rubio

FASHION icon: Bee Fortelles, Pilar Moreno, Frederick Peralta

Searching for the perfect gift for my less-exciting half

LOVELY guests Melba Ribiera, Czarina Tinpula

SALONE Stephanie de Jesus-Jack Tantoco, Abby Arias Tantoco, Miss Universe Philippines Shamcey Supsup

WONDERFUL couple Wyne Wyne and Marlyn Ong

BUSTAH'S Supermarket power couple Cricket and Dennis Tantoco

Homepage F1

country, the end-of-possession traffic is something to look forward to. Lucky guest Alvin Hermann won the grand prize of a samsung home 9 Ultra notebook. But like a true gentleman, he quickly gave the unit to his ex-wife Vicki Belo. I am glad that this ex-couple have kept a wonderful relationship despite being beyond the bebe of married bliss.

I got to see the full range of Samsung Appliances during a photo session last week, as I am their new brand ambassador together with blogger and TV host Daphne Oseña. A matic-set-vocal-effect? Ok-ezia would prefer a Samsung Smart TV or their washing machine, but perhaps I shouldn't let us bad to him.

Rustan's Asian section

Right after the Samsung pictorial, I rushed to Rustan's Supermarket in Makati to grace their opening of the Asian Section of the grocery. Rustan's now offers various spices and condiments for several Asian menus, and the grocery tapped several specialty restaurants to create sample dishes for the guests to try.

Dennis and Cricket Tantoco, the new brand ambassadors of Asian aisle from heads of the stellar supermarket, showed me around and we happily sampled dishes from all the participating restaurants. My favorite samples were the Thai dishes of Amelia Restaurant. Now that the ingredients are available in Rustan's Supermarket, I can have pad Thai noodles at home.

That evening was a "three-events," which means I had to rush off, this time headed to Gloria Stephanie (www.gloriastephanie.com) at The Podium mall for the "Away Exhibit" of artist Dominic Rubio and hairstylist/designer Frederick Peralta. Their beautiful collaboration of fashion and art is on display at the mall until July 4.

The Filipiniana gown collection of Frederick was the subject of the exhibition by Dominic. But the gown or his clothes, so to speak. Eyeing the gowns were fashion jabbas like Bee Fortelles and Pilar Moreno, as well as several art patrons. I was thinking of getting one of the paintings for Dennis, but by the time I got there, all the paintings were already reserved!

More prospects

As I continued my search for the perfect gift, I headed to the Rody Project store in the same mall. I saw a beautiful bike helmet, which fit me perfectly. So I got that for our biennial YSA Philippines race in Cebu in August. I also got myself a pair of Rody Project shades, but honestly can't see them as he will be doing the swim leg and thus, will be using Speedo goggles.

So my search continued as I then went to Portofolks, the country's first and premier fashion home lifestyle store at the Fort. The landmark store is celebrating its 10th anniversary already, and managing director Florence Ko and co-owner William held a grand celebration party at the newly renovated store. Presence were looking resplendent and much dressed as she took me around the showroom.

International designer Chi Wing Lo, a multi-awarded architect and interior designer of 5-star hotels from Hong Kong to Shanghai, has left the mark in bringing the leading purveyor of high-end fashion furniture in the country.

Portofolks boasts of having over 30 brands from all other Europe in their portfolio, ranging from home to kitchen, and even office and outdoor spaces. The "Downside" party had Italian Ambassador Luca Fornari and his lovely wife Silvana as special guests.

All three levels of the expansive showroom were filled with lavish furniture showcases and

GUESTS at the Portofolks 10th anniversary party at the Fort, with owners Florence and William Ko, Italian Ambassador Luca Fornari and wife Silvana

FURNITALIA party hosts Johnny Litton and Ines Litton, Florence Ko

SALUTE Stephanie's "Away Exhibit" features Frederick Peralta for fashion and Dominic Rubio for art.

"GALA Night," by Dominic Rubio

FURNITALIA owner Florence Ko, Silvana and Italian Ambassador Luca Fornari, William Ko

G ITOMO, Wilma Doesnt

SAMSUNG Electronics Philippines Corporation recently introduced the new line of powerful yet sleek notebooks to the Philippine public. Samsung executives at the IT convergence event are Samsung IT business unit advisor James Kwon, president KE Park and business unit director Eric Gale.

CHANELLE Navarro, Joann Navarro, Vicky Belo

RAPHAEL Keller, Mole Esguerra

SAMSUNG head of corporate marketing Cinque Terrae Tan, Daphne Oseña-Paez

ANDY Kasigwa Prada, Bajie Tinga

FURNITALIA guests Jenny Cruz, Esquire editor Erwin Romulo, Mara Romulo, Tatler editor Anton Jimenez

LUXURIOUS! beautiful Bonpoint furniture line of Ambiente Arango and Andrei Montanano at the Portofolks showroom

WILMA Diwayan Professional Models Association of the Philippines models in Frederick Peralta

ALSY Project Grace at the Podium mall

JAMMEDEE, Sea Princess

SAMSUNG business unit director Eric Gale, Ervin Lopez

New French envoy basks in southern hospitality

CEBU
CEBU

Jaime Piccuteli

GILLES GARDUCHON, France's new ambassador to the Philippines, made an official visit to Cebu with his wife Isabelle and their two sons, Valentin and Arthur. They stayed at the Shangri-La Mactan Resort and Spa.

Ambassador Garduchon paid courtesy calls on Cebu City Mayor Michael Rama and Governor Gwendolyn Garcia. He also took the opportunity to meet the French community in Cebu during a reception held at the residence of Alliance Française de Cebu.

On hand to welcome him were France's honorary Consul in the Visayas Michel Lhuillier with his wife Amparito Llaguno Lhuillier; as well as Alliance Française de Cebu director Louis Thevenin, deputy director Adiette Rhoads, and project manager Mary Ann Famoguia.

Consul Lhuillier expressed his gratitude for the support of the French Embassy for efforts to bring Alliance Française de Cebu. In turn, Ambassador Garduchon congratulated the cultural agency for its diverse activity not only imparting lessons in the French language but also in cultivating multifarious cultural activities.

Recently held at Ayala Center Cebu were three events that generated large appreciative audiences. There was the French rhythm-hip performance by athletic young men who dressed like acrobats. On June 16 was French in Shanghai with over 50 participating groups and individuals. From June 17-19 is French Film Festival featuring contemporary young people.

Among those present at the reception was a group of young French teachers: the Valente Gal, who runs her own school, and the Ishac family. Thomas Le Grand, Marion Gomez, Karen Darlington, Elise Robillart, Peter Lampert and Quentin Jacquet.

Alliance Française de Cebu will next treat its fans to current fashion in the Pink Room, erstwhile residence of the prominent Who family along Gorordo Avenue. It has been redecorated with impeccable good taste by French lady Delphine de Lacroix who has given it an Indochinese look.

Aside from the spacious activities of Alliance Française the place will also have a gourmet French restaurant aptly called La Maison Rose. That's where Ambassador and madame Garduchon went for dinner after the reception.

It was an opportunity for them to meet the owners of the house—Jeanclaire Soler, for Marinella Soler of the Philippine of the Good Shepherd convent; and Polly Soler Garduchon, with her husband Emile Garduchon and their two grown-up daughters, Rashna and Linelle.

"We are so happy with how the house looks," they said, adding that it has kept its original features, and that those were not been exhumed. It was their parents, Jose and Juanita Soler, who designed its interiors and arches, in the 1930s.

Rosaybel Isaac Barrientos, who manages La Maison Rose, had trained the service personnel to greet guests with "Bon soir" and tonight there is all set to change to "Bonne nuit" when chilled 1906 St. Chamidon. The Rhine escapes were simply delicious.

It was a seated dinner prepared by chef Jean-Pierre Dupuy. Dishes were announced with French flair by Chevalier Lorme, TV producer of international fame who with his wife Delphine has been based himself in Cebu. Everything was pronounced exquisite.

The Salade Nordique was followed by a Bouillabaisse highlighted by creamy mayonnaise. The bread homegrown was the yeasiest ever, and the cheese platter that followed was most tempting. The evening's crowning glory was a Monthy Island dessert.

Next day Ambassador Garduchon was to attend with great honor—transports blasting, the vehicle saying—at the University of San Carlos Basak Campus. Dr. Milo Espina had arranged for him to meet the university's president, Fr. Ramon Mark, OSB, vice-president for academics Fr. Manuel Badilla, OAR, and José Felipe Dotollo.

Epicurean

Lunch was another epicurean experience at a Matsuyacho, this time for the Cebu media to meet Ambassador Garduchon. There was green salad with condiments, dabs of grouper fish and scrumptious strawberry desserts for dessert. Then, the ambassador went off to see the landscape sites of southern Cebu in Cordon and Argao.

Dinner that evening was at the ocean hill-top home of Michael and Amparito Lhuillier. There were white cocktails in bloom all over the place. Cocktails and canapés were served, as the gazebo. A steady drizzle refreshed the evening and made every blade of grass sparkle.

The dinner table drew oohs and ahhs from the guests. Aside from Ambassador and madame Garduchon, present were Louie and Rosemyrtel Chevremin, Hiram Leo Chiliptchuk-Lorma, Virginia Sandiko and Chalmagne Calderon.

The dinner table was ablaze with orchids, and decorated with Lalique crystal swans. The service was by Royal Doulton with the signature of Monique Lhuillier, which was also etched on the fine cut glass stemware.

Michael and Amparito had added chef Rolly Erfetso to prepare a Filipino fusion menu which started seven courses ahead of time. For Sinulid soup had threads of chicken and young coconut plus chili leaves. The Grilled of pink pork (sack lobster) was lavish with ripe mango. The grouper fillet was topped with mild icing and drizzled with cashew bits.

The edamame sorbet had rose petals, and with it came crystal jiggers of ice-cold Polish Zubrowka vodka. The angus beef was with a Cabernet reduction, and an assortment of Filipino delicacies did the delights of all at dessert time. Top wines from Michel's cellar were passed by Ms. Chevremin, Talbot, white Rioja Paire and Chateau Haut Brion.

Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel slated July 16

THE FEAST of Our Lady of Mount Carmel on July 16 is a very important feast of the Catholic Church.

The feast commemorates the giving of the brown scapular by the Blessed Virgin Mary to St. Simon Stock. The wearing of the scapular assures one of salvation.

The Carmelite Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel in New Manila, Quezon City, will hold special Novena Masses in honor of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, beginning July 7, 6 p.m., until July 15. A Novena Mass will be celebrated on July 16, 6 p.m., with Bishop Antonio Tris Bravo, a Carmelite as main celebrant.

Devotion to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel are urged to show their devotion to her by wearing their brown scapulars. For those who have not yet been enlisted, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Novena scapulars will be distributed during all the Masses and on the Masses during the feast on July 16.

A procession in honor of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel will follow after the Mass in Mass.

Visit www.novenadelvirtus.com; e-mail novenadelvirtus@yahoo.com; call the parish office at 7267-0000.

Order of Mount Carmel

According to the most ancient Carmelite chronicles, the Order of Mount Carmel has its origins with the disciples of the prophets Elias and Eliseus. They lived in caves on Mount Carmel. They honored the Queen of Heaven as the Virgin who was expected to give birth to the Savior.

When the reality replaced the symbol, the pious ascetics of Carmel were converted to the Christian Faith. In the 12th century, many pilgrims from Europe who had followed the Crusaders came to join the solitaries. A rule was established and the Order began to spread to Europe.

Amid the many persecutions raised against the Order of Mount Carmel, newly arrived in Europe, Saint Simon Stock, General of the Order, turned with filial confidence to the Blessed Mother of God to be freed in prayer on July 16, 1251, in the Convent of the White Friars in Cambridge, she appeared before him and presented him with the well-known brown scapular, a loose sleeveless garment destined for the Order of Carmel, reaching from the shoulders to the knees. It was given as an assurance, for all who died wearing it, of her heavenly protection from eternal death. An extraordinary promise, indeed, but one requiring a life of prayer and sacrifice.

Devotion to the blessed habit spread quickly throughout the Christian world. Popes after pope enriched it with indulgences, and innumerable miracles put their seal upon its efficacy. The Sons of Christ, now reunited in Mexico as a true dying in despair, who when the scapular was laid upon him by Saint Simon Stock at once asked for the Sacraments.

Isa Puan Bato is Surigao del Sur

Our Blessed Mother must have been mighty pleased that wonderful day of April 18 when the women and young men of Barangay Magsaysay and Barangay Candilan, Surigao del Sur gathered, offered flowers and celebrated Mass in her honor.

The happy event was the highlight of the Golden Jubilee celebration of the Legion of Mary led by Curia president Sis. Virginia Constante and supported by Mother division Lilia Villarreal, aides of Curia Johnny Villarreal.

The Holy Mass was presided by the blessing of the Holy Rosary Mountain and a guru-size icon of Mother Mary. Similarly found in the Mother Mary Center are the Isa Puan Bato Grotto and a giant painting of the Divine Mercy.

Touched by the ceremony attended by close to 200 devotees were guests Isa Puan Bato Foundation president Rosellyn Magsaysay, Cherry Sarmiento, Isaia L. Halog and Rep. Alan Magsaysay, who talked about the church's opposition to the Reproductive Health Bill.

Our Lady of the Roses

Grace Salvacion prayed the 33000 Hail Mary's alone last June 16 in her home to mark the anniversary of the appearance of the Blessed Virgin in the 70s to Veronica Lenkins in Rapids, New York.

Our Lady manifested herself in the shower of red roses. Grace told me that when her daughter takes photos of the

OUR LADY of Mount Carmel in the Carmel Church on Broadway Avenue, New Manila, QC

image in her skin, the expression on her face changes. As in all appearances of the Blessed Virgin Mary, she asked for the practice of penance and for devotion. She asked for the praying of the Holy Rosary to bring peace.

Grace is part of Our Lady of Medjugorje Prayer Group that includes Lory Zapanta, who will hold the praying of the "3000 Hail Mary's" on July 7, 2nd Saturday, at the Chapel of Mt. Carmel in Camella Homes, Nasugbu, Cavite.

Golden wedding anniversary

What probably holds us as a people are our penchant for celebrating anniversaries—but being members of families together. Such was the golden wedding anniversary of Dominic Asuncion—Quilao and Clemente Quilao held at at the Saint Vincent de Paul Church in San Marcelino Street, Ermita, Manila.

Relatives from as far as Tabaco, Leyte came. Fr. Manuel Cirotlo, parish priest of Most Holy rosary Parish in Alabang, officiated the blessed. The Mass, together with Msgr. Bernardo Pantin, vicar general of the Archdiocese of Palo. Fr. Cirotlo is a nephew of in-blessing; she being the first cousin of his father, Clara Garcia Cirotlo.

Clara is the son of Nilo Cirotlo, the brother of Nina Cirotlo who is the mother of Demetria. Fr. Cirotlo who is fondly called "Fr. Emboy" remembers when he and his sister, Dr. Ofelia Cirotlo Alcantara, were still studying, they stayed with their Ate Meding and an Monica.

Directors of Our Lady of Fire are urged to attend the Mass in her honor on July 7, 6 a.m., at the Sto. Domingo Church.

Get the coolest Spider-Man collectibles only from Jollibee

Fire-dancing Spider-Man emerges to celebrate as the children's birthday bash kicks off their presence. Spider-Man collectibles! Starting this June, exciting Spider-Man merchandise and fun-filled activities! They purchase their favorite Jollibee dishes and more treats.

A spectacular set of fun

Young fans of the Marvel heroes will have no end to exciting activities to do at the Amazing Spider-Man Jollibee Collection! From June 27 to July 31, every Jollibee Kids Meal comes with a Spider-Man collectible toy. Shopping your favorite Spider-Man collectible toy, Spider-Man Balance Toy, guaranteed to get Spider-Man Balance Toy, guaranteed to get Spider-Man Balance Toy, guaranteed to get

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ENTERTAINMENT

Edna Emerie G. Velasco

Spa day for Zsa Zsa

ACTOR-DIRECTOR Eric Quizon said that the entire star treatment right of relief after Comedy King Dolphy's condition improved on Friday. "Dad smiled and stuck out his tongue for us," he recalled. "[Dolphy's partner] Zsa Zsa Padilla can now joke around. "Eric said that Zsa Zsa and his sisters, who are like dad's "nurses," are planning a trip to the salon to have their nails done. "They've been under a lot of stress the past three weeks. It only we can bring a spa to the hospital for them, we would," Eric quipped. *Jigger San Diego, Jr.*

HEARD

THE MAMIC comic plays "Pay Lola" Arnaiz Sigaw Mayorya in an episode of his new chat show on Viva Channel, "The Joe Santos Show".

The show must go on

By Bayani San Diego Jr.

IN HIS dressing room at the Trocadero, minutes before he went up the stage, stand-up comedian Joe Santos asked me (I would be dubbed) making people laugh at a time when the entire nation is praying for the ailing King of Comedy Dolphy.

Santos is currently in the middle of a series of shows, "Tri, Pensee, Siadora," at the Trocadero in Greenhills. (The shows, which will benefit various causes, will run for three more nights—July 13, 20 and 28.)

"It times like this, I'd often ask myself: What would Mang Dolphy say? I think he is also a big believer in the adage 'The show must go on.'" Santos told the reporter in an exclusive interview.

He described Dolphy as a

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ANC welcomes new competition

Ging Reyes on the creation of another all-news channel, Solar News: 'We can't be forever alone in this platform'

GING Reyes, ANC managing director

By Marinel R. Cruz

"JOURNALISM is a noble calling. We don't have the monopoly of the desire to provide this kind of service to our widening audience," said Regina "Ging" Reyes, managing director of the ABS-CBN News Channel or ANC.

Reyes was reacting to a question from the big man on the competition posed by another all-news channel, Solar News, which started broadcasting in January.

Solar News, which airs on cable channel Talk TV, debuted with the news coverage of the impeachment trial of Supreme Court Chief Justice Renato Corona, which was anchored by former ANC newsmen Jing Magsaysay and Tina Monzon-Palma.

Two other channels will enter the scene by mid-TFC's Myrtle TV and GMA-7's GMA News TV were launched last year.

Former colleagues

Reyes said she welcomed the growth of news channels locally. "We can't do anything if other people decide to put up these channels. The people running Solar News are my former colleagues and friends. It's not they will do a good job. After all, they are ABS-CBN veterans."

Magsaysay and Sol Mariquez are now senior vice president and vice president, respectively, of Solar's news and current affairs group.

"I've worked with them very well," recalled Reyes, who is also head of ABS-CBN's news and current affairs division. "Jing was a reporter when I was still a production assistant. Sol was the desk editor when I was a writer and assistant producer of the 'World Tonight.'"

She added: "Pia and I had a very good talk about why she wanted to join them. I respect her decision. I interestedly with them luck. We saw each other at the finishline in the start of the impeachment trial and shared some good-natured ribbing."

Reyes said there is an effort to "strengthen" ANC to reach a wider audience. "While we know that we are the gold-mine of shows of decision-makers, educators and businessmen, we want to widen that a little bit more. Now you see that there is a whole afternoon with a more lively and viewer-centered content. I am very confident that ANC will further expand its reach and its subscriber base."

New shows

Last June 11, ANC began airing "Show Your" at 2 p.m. with anchor Sen Cruz presenting major national, business and foreign news.

Cory Alonzo takes over the show at 3 p.m. to give updates on the Asian markets and national life minutes from the Philippine Stock Exchange.

Also delivering updates from the PSE trading floor is Warren de Guzman.

Business Constantino reports on the biggest national and regional stories in the country.

Bryan Glen delivers weather forecasts while Iziel Schuler gives the latest buzz and trends from the social media realm.

ANC also launched "HANGALERTS," or what it calls the "first-of-its-kind social media news program," with Schuler and TJ Manotoc as hosts. It airs weekdays at 4:30 p.m.

Reyes said she hopes ANC to likewise compete globally. "We want to extend its coverage and reach beyond the Philippines. Our Kababayans are in every corner of the world anyway. We're airing through TFC (The Filipino Channel) all over the world. The next step is to go beyond TFC, to make it available to anybody who wants to consume news about Filipinos every-where in the world."

Reyes observed that social networking sites have become tools to drive audiences to watch television.

"Twitter drives viewership. We don't know where this is heading, but we want to be in step with the times...ahead of it even—so that we're ready for any change that will happen so that we'll all be the many platforms that we're in," the network exec said. "We're always on our toes. We want to keep our content excellent, make sure our audience stays with us because we have something different to offer them."

Meanwhile, ANC has also "beefed" up its prime time programming with shows like "Inside Business," where anchor Gen Alcuaz presents insightful business news discussions every Wednesday at 7 p.m., and "Future Perfect," a 30-minute science and technology show with Tony Velasquez that airs also on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.

Pharmaela Barranda hosts "Citymapper," which features the most popular food establishments, fashion trends, weekend getaways and human events in and around the metropolis. It airs Fridays at 9:30 p.m.

The show must go on

From page 1

While the nation prays for the ailing King of Philippine Comedy, Dolphy, Jon Santos says laughter is just what we need right now

"consummate professional who would perform even when he had personal troubles."

Santos first worked with the King for a TV special, "Lolo si Dolphy" in the 1990s. "I was a struggling newcomer then," he recounted. "I was dressed as his [partner] Tito Jun Padilla and he playfully put his arm around me and called me 'my mate.'"

"I HAVE no memories about near-accidents because I was welcomed with open arms by the veterans when I was a neophyte myself."

Santos was awed by the legendary comic's humility. "He showed his appreciation of my work and was generous with compliments. He told me that my monologue had heart," Santos recalled. "That's why I have no reservations about new comedians because I was welcomed with open arms by the veterans when I was a neophyte myself."

Big league

Aside from Dolphy, other big comedy stars like Willie Nepomuceno, Joey de Leon, Mitch Valdez, Susanita Intavate and Tessie Tomas have gladly shared the stage and screen with Santos.

"They never stood to the way of an open door," he said. "Every gave me courtesies and jobs. Susanita and Mitch gave me their friendship."

Santos, who is now a talent signed with Viva Entertainment, will join the "Comedy Divas"—Ai-Ai, Jaworski and Tessie—in a series of shows at the Resorts World this September.

"It's one much anticipated and long-awaited bonding session," he quipped. "When Manila, we hope to have the shows on the road—join the provinces and in the United States."

As he was being transformed into Gov Vic in Tuesday by makeup artist Alex Fontanilla, Santos said he's constantly tapped to guest in the sessions of younger stars, including other Viva talents like Sarah Geronimo, Anne Curtis and KC Concepcion.

"I told KC: 'I guested in the European and North American concert tour of your mom, [Sharon Cuneta],' Recently, I was directed by Rare Navarro, Harden's son, for a video. I appeared in the movie 'Moron 5.1' and the 'Crying Lady' with Lani Mercado, Vilma Santos' son, My Lady Gaga costume was designed by Rehta Santos, Sarah's son. I now work with the children. I'm assured that I am still around after all these years."

New chat show

The manic scenic is also hosting a new chat show on cable, "The Jon Santos Show," set to debut on the Viva Channel today.

For an episode, he interviewed composer Ryan Cayabyab while playing his character "Pop Lala" in Armida Siguion-Reyna's "Mga Kuwento ni Lola Basyang."

He has a retinue of celebrity guests in the show: "Kuting, Sheryeen, Eon Jee, Dyanning, 3Dyan."

He admitted that it would be a blast if he would get to interview the country's first virgin Gov Vilma Santos while he was dressed up as Gov Vic.

"But I am sure I will struggle with being star-struck whenever she is front of me," he conceded.

(thepentmedia@philstar.com)

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Sweethearts hide affair from gay benefactor

By the Entertainment Staff

SIDNEY Actor declines to talk about his relationship with Penny Starlet, in fact he has been denying their love affair.

Turned out, HA and PS are still living under one roof.

Does Gay Benefactor know that HA and PS are still together?

Perhaps it was GB who put the gag order on HA...pretending that it was supposed to be a career move. GB was said to have advised HA: "Stars are very jealous. You better be single and available for them."

Replace "Stars" with GB in the sentence and you'll get the drift.

Party poopers

At a recent splashy event, there was palpable tension in the air.

Stunning Starlet, who was then having problems with Playboy Boss, was in no mood to party.

Making matters worse, calming fill was Gorgeous Studlet, who was being linked to PS, having a ball from across the venue.

Handlers had to work double time to make sure that SS and GS wouldn't cross paths.

Apparently, they didn't need to sweat it because HP shielded HA who likewise avoided a nasty confrontation.

Pregnant pause

Rumors are getting louder.

Penny Starlet and Sidney Actor's affair had been tumultuous, to say the least. So when they split up, no one was really shocked.

But PS had an ace up her sleeve—she was allegedly knocked up by PA.

Needless to say, PA's handlers were apparently alarmed and ordered PS to take a time of silence, as in, "Un see ourselves, do not deny."

Is that why PS had to disappear for a while? Will that forced vacation take nine months?

Secret ingredient

Wonderwoman Cookie was livid, refusing to guest again on a cooking show.

KC reportedly had a bad experience, witnessing the unsanitary practices of Celebrity Chef in front of the stove.

CC kept blabbing while cooking, discussing the dish with generous amounts of saliva.

KC almost fainted when CC offered a spoonful of the chow while the cameras were rolling.

Spellbinder

Observers are stunned. Controversial Celebrity seems to have fallen under the spell of fierce talking Groupie.

Invoking noble intentions, Europeanized Starlet SG is allegedly donning CC's trousseau.

A birdie, however, insists that CC in her too pleased to be dressed by SG. CC is just waiting for the right opportunity before dumping SG.

Ruffa's quitting now official

Ruffa Gutierrez has made formal her resignation as co-host from the TV5 show his talk show "Pagsasalit" on June 27. In her official statement, a copy of which was sent to the location, Ruffa declared that the show's creative team did not give her details on the nature of the questions in the "Relationship" segment which caused her to

RUFFA Gutierrez: Officially resigned from "Pagsasalit"

CHESTNUT Rayos-Herrera and

MATTEO Guidicelli and Maja Salvador

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Top of Bandera

The top show biz news in the buzzing tabloid Bandera (and who we are moved if we are moved):

- Hindi tayong mulat ang ating nakaiking share: Jaimee Yap nagpapasalamat sa mga bayan ng showbiz pa rin ang ating idol (Ito kasi na lang kaya ang ganap ng mga kapatid nila?)
- Kung may gusto si Vice Ganda ang mga lalaking bobo bacla ganyan, Kris ang type magkaroon ng shaka para maintindihan (Ay-each ha!-ows.)
- Walang pasay walang lalaidown, walang bahog, "pamurot" kay Dolphy sa Facebook, dapat dasalang (If not jailed ever, pak sa Facebook, maybe traffic would ease up.)
- Monica, Angelica Panganiban nagmudmod sa magazine pinoyesia! (Make sense nagpa-pose-pose ang eke.)
- Daniel Padilla: Bida nanood sikreng lalaking pinoy (Ah! Hindi pa, yes! mean.)
- "Hindi naman intended ng panahon Kimpoy ang si Bernard Padilla to Arabella as Shamcey (Among pawnables pa?)
- Bian Lim ang dami dancing at's so homosexual ka gumalaw ka naman ng kamot, eat you blame him?)
- Mike Tan was may 'K' maging lead ng mas kaya-kaya Music Always.
- Enjoy na raps sila ang original hosts ng pregnancy. Also 'pumapa si K! Mendiola nanagsisesan Team?"
- Gretchen doubles or more ng ratsi: suggesting sa "Princess and I"
- Manager daw kasing magkakasama sa isang isla: Promise ni Marcos kay Maja: Hindi ka papasakan si Jessa Mendiola! Dad's hapit ha! cool lying.)
- Cristine Reyes ang scary-to-kay her, pero Aquaholic lang daw (Better than nothing.)
- Cristine Reyes nanakit ng marami ng projects dahil kay Ara (Can't blame someone else for that mapbeta.)
- Cristine Reyes nagmukhang feeling sa 'Inspired' lang "Maybe it's the 'Inspired' drug that gave her a conscience.)
- Sa wakas, dinapuan na si Angel ang mumunti na 'so' kay Phil Younghusband (Baka kaggamit kaya.)
- Pinky, Jericho may nggitan, pero sabi na ba ang lahat? (Di stop it, parehs kayong gwapo.)
- Insidious daw kulapo ng nanalong cross sa mga gumalaw, wow ito, dugalera Pangarellan kapag lamon ng mga tao, hihik nang hihik? (Baka naman mayroon lang siyang hairball ha.)
- Mel 'Tanggol Bernard' daw si Dolphy, pinagsalitan ng CIDG TV Ethelyn si Bernard condition isn't fair game.)
- Nalimot na rao kaming mga dating bahagi dito dati, Sarah Geronimo, pinalalayo na si Monster Ebidas kay Gerald Anderson (Wala pa ngang nangyayari, nahahjaan na?)

ENTERTAINMENT

Jessica Sanchez talks about debut album, future plans

The 'American Idol' 2012 runner-up is looking forward to performing in Manila on Sept. 21

THE 16-YEAR-OLD singer announces on Ustream a multi-episode appearance in the new season of "Glee."

ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD

Rahoul U. Segismundo

LOS ANGELES—"American Idol" 2012 runner-up Jessica Sanchez recently gave an update on the kind of album she is currently doing for Interscope Records.

In an e-mail interview, the Filipino-Mexican-American sounded excited about her first album by the label, which boasts of a dynamic list of talents, from Hi-Arc Nicole Scherzinger, Far East Movement (which includes another FilAm, Virman Cuenca), Sir Cost, Eminem, Robin Thicke, Lady Gaga to U2.

Jessica is looking forward to not for seeing the Philippines when she "idol" concert tour makes its Manila stop on Sept. 21 at the Smart Araneta Coliseum.

The 16-year-old singing sensation is absolutely making waves. Here's out to make a multi-episode appearance in the next season of "Glee." Below are excerpts of our interview:

How do you envision your first album?

It's going to be more of urban and R&B, with a bit of pop. I can't wait for everyone to hear that side of me.

Are you thinking of including a song that you wrote or collaborate?

I'm not much of a writer but I definitely want to get into something. I don't want to just be given songs. I need to have my hopes in there.

Who would you want to collaborate with, and why?

There's a bunch of people! Eminem, Beyonce, Rihanna, Prince, Drake, etc. We'll just see how that all works out, though.

How is Phillip Phillips since his surgery?

He's doing great! I love him so much!

There's a wonderful video of you as a young girl singing with other Filipino-American "Idol" finalists Jasmine Trias and Tim Urgia.

This is my girl. I love her so much. She's such a sweet, humble girl.

You are remarkably calm and poised for a 16-year-old going through all the pressure in the high-profile events you've performed in since the "Idol" finals, media interviews, etc. How do you stay cool in these situations that would otherwise have most kids sweating?

I've always been a really chill, calm, quiet person. And I kinda always told myself that this mess's going to be easy. I knew it was going be really stressful and a lot of work. So I'm ready for anything you wanna throw at me.

Everything must seem to be coming fast for you since the "Idol" finale. How do you relax amid this hectic lifestyle that you suddenly find yourself in?

Always. Ha ha. I'm cool with the whole busy thing. I love being busy! This is the life I've always dreamt of. I'm working hard on my music to achieve my goals.

It has been reported that you will be doing a first-only solo concert tour in the Philippines in October, including one in Batanes, your mom's hometown. Can you talk about that?

That true is correct.

Can you also comment on reports that you will be the front act when Jennifer Lopez performs in a concert in the Philippines this year?

That true also a correct.

You were quoted as saying that your future plans include going to college. How important is college education to you?

I was never an A+ student but I still understand that education is a big part of life. No matter what, college should always be accessible.

E-mail the columnist at rsegismundo_INQ@yahoo.com. Follow him at http://twitter.com/rsegismundo.

FILIPINOS: Zanjoe Marudo, Ananda Everingham and Luis Alandy play Filipino soldiers guarding the Spratlys in Zoilo Alix's new film "Kalayaan."

New film explores effects of isolation

By Marinell B. Cruz

INDEPENDENT filmmaker Adolfo Alix Jr. says his new film, "Kalayaan," offers viewers "a different perspective" on the ongoing dispute between the Philippines and China over the Scarborough Shoal (Panatag Shoal).

"This movie is realistic in the sentiments of Filipinos, particularly the soldiers stationed, this time, on the disputed Spratly Islands," Alix told the Inquirer. "This will give people the chance to see what life is really like for Filipino soldiers caught between this dispute."

Alix starred in the Filipino group of islands, the Spratlys—located off the southern coast of Palawan—is being claimed by China, Taiwan, Vietnam, Malaysia and the Philippines.

"Kalayaan" is Alix's entry to the Directors' Showcase, a category of the 2012 Cinemalaya Philippine Independent Film Festival in July. It stars Zanjoe Marudo, Luis Alandy, Rocky Salumbides, Angeli Bayani, Japanese actress Kiki Sugino and Thai superstar Ananda Everingham.

"This movie is very timely in a way it will try to discuss the political implications of the issue by telling the story of

END OF SEASON SALE

VINCE CAMUTO

SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL

Giving audiences a swinging time

Singer Arthur Manuntag discusses his affinity with swing and big band music

By Pachalo Concepcion

YOU CAN put Filipino singer Arthur Manuntag in just about any venue—a small jazz joint, a hotel lounge or the Smart Araneta Coliseum—and he's sure to charm the audience.

The bassist has since this year many times. Thus, he's a wise choice for a front act for the Glenn Miller Orchestra concert on July 2 at the Plenary Hall of the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC) in Pasay City.

In this e-mail chat, Manuntag discusses his affinity with swing and big band music, to which he was introduced by his dad, Salvador, a tailor.

When did you first hear swing music, and what did you like about it?

When I was a kid, my dad used to bring me to a nearby carinderia for merienda. He would insert some coins into the jukebox for Frank Sinatra hits like "I've Got You Under My Skin" and "You Make Me Feel So Young." Pag pauwi siya ng balikbik. Dinnertime. Minsan. One thing I like about swing is the rhythm, para kang sinasayaw... mapapasayaw ka.

ARTHUR Manuntag (inset) will be the front act for the Glenn Miller Orchestra concert on July 2 at the PICC.

What are your favorite Glenn Miller songs, and why?

"In the Mood" and "Moonlight Serenade." I don't know why I like these songs, maybe because of the mood and melody. Set up pakinggan.

Is there a connection between your appreciation of swing and how jazz became a big part of your repertoire as a singer?

Definitely! Since I liked swing jazz, I was challenged to sing in that style. It's not hard for people to appreciate it, although the composers seemed to have worked hard on crafting the melodies and lyrics. The songs have a classy appeal.

How do you think young people can relate to it?

That's difficult. You know that today's kids are influenced by different types of music, but British bands are still setting people who may be called hopeless romantics because they have heard their parents' (professional) including classic movie theme songs.

The way I see it, these kids will get a sense of listening to home and (not) when they reach their 30s—which is good for me, student-age audience for, hahaha!

What can the audience expect from you at the Glenn Miller concert?

As for opening act I will not exactly the audience, sing Jupe oh, sing-holding hands many a-la while listening to standard songs. Jupe-ala singpany with the Glenn Miller Orchestra.

Front act

Manuntag will again be the front act for the Glenn Miller Orchestra's concert on July 3 at the WhiteSheet Cebu City Hotel and Casino.

The 27-piece orchestra was originally formed in 1938 by Miller, the American trombonist, arranger, composer and bandleader renowned worldwide for the hit songs "Moonlight Serenade," "In the Mood," "Pennsylvania 6-5000," "Chattanooga Choo Choo" and "(I've Got a Gal In) Kalamazoo," among others.

After Miller's disappearance (and presumed death) aboard a plane bound for France in 1944, the band was reconstituted under the direction of Tex Beneke.

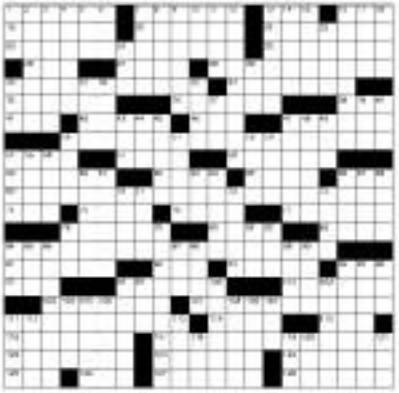
The orchestra continued to record and perform under various leaders starting in 1956 and is still touring today.

Performing with the orchestra as vocalists are the Swing Sisters as the reincarnation of the celebrated sixteen-piece

"SINCE I liked swing jazz, I was challenged to sing in that style," says Manuntag, who joined Herman Hermits vocalist Peter Ward (right) onstage recently at Hard Rock Cafe Makati.

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

INDEPENDENCE DAY



SUDOKU

Sudoku, a mathematical puzzle, was invented by Howard Garns, a retired architect and puzzle maker from Indianapolis, Indiana. It was published in 1979 by Dell Magazines under the name Number Place. The name Sudoku was coined by Nikoli, a Japanese puzzle publishing company, which popularized the puzzle in Japan in 1986.

Concepcion Sudoku By Pach Concepcion

6				1				4
	4		5		8	2		
	3			4			2	
	9		2		7		1	
	7			9			5	
		3	9		4	5		
1				6				3

Medium Level ★★★★★

Answer to previous puzzle

2	5	4	6	3	1	9	8	7
1	9	8	6	7	5	3	4	2
3	7	6	4	9	2	1	9	5
4	3	7	1	8	5	9	7	6
5	6	9	3	2	7	4	2	1
7	1	5	2	6	4	8	9	3
8	4	1	7	5	9	6	3	8
6	8	7	9	1	3	2	5	4
9	2	3	5	4	6	7	1	8

Nicki Minaj to rock MOA Arena

WILLBROS Live, in cooperation with Kitchberry and Globe Telecom, presents rapper/singer-songwriter Nicki Minaj in concert on July 31 at the SM Mall of Asia Arena.

Minaj became the first female artist to have seven singles on the Billboard Hot 100 at the same time. Her second album, "Pink Friday: Roman Reloaded," was released last April and included the hit single "Super Bass."

Log on to globe.com.ph/kitchberry/nicki or call 3749999.

9. Little Big Bang'

Filipino dreamcast singer Angeli Bayani, who starred as Rita in the German production of "Miss Saigon," performs in a concert dubbed "9. Little Big Bang" on July 11 at the Ateneo Museum.

The show—which will feature Broadway and pop hits—also features the Models, Gabe Mercado, The Madrigal Singers, and the AMP Band led by Mel Villena. Special guest is pianist Jolo Plasencia.

Raymond Lauchengco directs.

Proceeds will go to Gawad Visión Philippines, a Christian-related development and advocacy organization dedicated to working with children, families and communities to overcome poverty and injustice.

David Cook returns

"American Idol" season 8 winner David Cook returns to Manila for a concert on July 14 at the Smart Araneta Coliseum and July 15 at Planetboom Cebu City Hotel and Casino.

Prior to joining Idol, the singer-songwriter released an independent album, "Analog Heart," followed by his major label debut "David Cook," released in 2008 and which has since been certified platinum. His second album, "This Loud Morning," came out in 2011.

Cook is host to members of his singing Mentch Gamry's hit "Always Be My Baby" during the top 7 finals of Idol.

Call 911-5555 (for Smart Araneta show) or 832-3456/832-3488 and 911-5145000 (for Cebu show).

Snow Patrol at Big Dome

Snow Patrol, an alternative rock band from Ireland, performs on Aug. 9 at the Smart Araneta Coliseum.

Composed of Gary Lightbody (vocals, rhythm guitar), Jonny Quinn (drums), Nathan Connolly (lead guitar), Neil Wilson (bass) and Tom Simpson (keyboards), the band's major breakthrough came with the release of the album "Eyes Open" in 2006, which contained the track "Chasing Cars."

That song was featured in the TV series "Grey's Anatomy". A second single, "You're All I Have," was released, followed by a third single, "Signal Fire," which was featured in the soundtrack of "Spider-Man 3."

Snow Patrol's latest album, "Fallen Empires," was released last year.

Call 911-5555.

'Potted Potter'

"Potted Potter (The Unauthorised Harry Experience)," a parody by Daniel Clarkson and Jef Iverson Turner, will have 10 shows starting Aug. 28 at the Cacho-Fernando Auditorium, RCBC Plaza, Makati. Tickets are seven-up.

The musical play takes on the climactic struggle of confronting all seven Harry Potter books (and a real life game of Quidditch) into 90 thrilling minutes. The show features all the Harry Potter characters, plus a special appearance from a few Jerzeds, ring dragon, and a generous helping of chipmunk magic.

Sept. 18

Maroon 5, with guest band The Cab, 9 p.m. Smart Araneta Coliseum

Sept. 21

"American Idol" 2012 concert contestant Jessica Sanchez plus 10 other finalists

New film ...

From page B1

three soldiers guarding the islands and the psychological effect of isolation on them," Alix said. "According to reports, soldiers deployed in Kalayaan receive 'danger pay' from the government."

Security risk

Alix said his film was already on its post-production stage. He added that it was supposed to be shot on two islands across the Spratlys, but he decided otherwise because of the security risk.

"The military installations we used for the film had to be built on Gaweta and Loak islands in Palawan province. Our act department spent a week there prior to the shoot for this purpose," he explained. "This way other Tl's does not flinching had been smooth-sailing. We had all the actors locked in one place."

Alix said he had been working on the project with Everingham for the last six years. The two met at a film festival in Bangkok where Alix's first film, "Arsenal," was screened. Everingham liked it and said he wanted to work with us on another film. He had a lot of input on this project. It took us a long time to finally make it because the actor also had other commitments," Alix said it also took a while to get enough funding for his film.

Good relationship

"Working with the two foreign actors had been easy," said Alix, adding that he spent time with them and the other cast members three days prior to shooting to discuss the material.

"Atanado also had a good relationship with the Filipino actors," Alix recalled. "In between takes, he would share stories of his country and its culture, and the others would do the same. Sometimes, conversations were about TV work in the Philippines."

Angeles, who plays one of the mermaids in the film, first met Alix at the 2010 Pusan International Film Festival in South Korea where Alix's other film, "Otsaki," was shown. "She's also a producer so she's aware of our budget constraints. She spent her own money to fly to Palawan. She said she wanted to work on the material so much that she'd accept even a minor role."

Alix said the mermaids' costumes were designed by renowned young artist Lanying Siow, who created costumes for Korean pop icon Lady Gaga in 2011. "The costumes were unconventional. The scenes with the mermaids were shot by the mangroves so the feel was also different. These characters provide the film an interesting twist," Alix explained.

The director added: "Our Thai and Japanese guests enjoyed eating Filipino food. Atanado liked grilled fish and stew, while Abe loved seafood and vegetables dishes."

"Kalayaan," and four other films competing under the Directors' Showcase, as well as the 20 entries in the Short Pinoy section, were formally launched in a media gathering recently at the Cultural Center of the Philippines in Pasay City.

The Cinemalaya Festival will be held from July 20 to 29.

DIRECTOR Adolfo Alix and Everingham

MOVIE TIME

GLORIETTA 5
1: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (3D)
2: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
3: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (3D)
4: KIMMY DORA/ THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
5: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
6: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
7: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

GREENBELT 3
1: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
2: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (3D)

GREENBELT 5
1: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
2: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (3D)
3: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
4: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (3D)
5: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

ALABANG TOWN CENTER
1: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
2: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (3D)
3: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
4: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
5: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
6: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (3D)
7: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

AYALA CENTER CEBU
1: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (3D)
2: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
3: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (3D)
4: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

MARQUEE
1: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
2: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
3: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (3D)
4: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

MARKET! MARKET!
1: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (3D)
2: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
3: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (3D)
4: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (3D)
5: KIMMY DORA/ THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
6: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
7: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

TRINOMA
1: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
2: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
3: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (3D)
4: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (3D)
5: KIMMY DORA/ THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
6: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
7: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

MIKATI
1: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (3D)
2: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (2D)
3: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
4: SPIDING PANAHON NA PANGKOMIKI

HARBOR POINT
1: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
2: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
3: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (3D)
4: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

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July 8/2pm & 4pm/Greenbelt 3 Park

MARKET! MARKET!
Dingdong Avanzado Live at Market! Market!
July 7/Activity Center

ALABANG TOWN CENTER
Cognac Exhibit
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'Veep' creator finds humor in American politics

JULIA Louis-Dreyfus stars as a female vice president in "Veep."

By Oliver M. Palatandoc
Contributor

"IT'S FUNNY, I don't think there has been a series on the actual presidential and vice presidential system," said Armando Iannucci, creator and executive producer of the new HBO comedy "Veep."

"I think in America at the moment, there's a lot of disillusion, a lot of frustration in the electorate...issues that aren't really being discussed. I think [it's time to expose] those weaknesses within the system," Iannucci explained in a recent phone interview. Our spoke to Iannucci from London. "It feels like it's the right time to do it then."

The multi-awarded Brit comedy writer/producer previously worked on the acclaimed political sitcom "The Thick of It," He said he knew at once that actress Julia Louis-Dreyfus would be perfect for "Veep's" American Vice President Selina Meyer.

"While writing the script, we thought that we wanted to write [it] a female vice president," Iannucci said. "After we did, we then thought, what we need is a really, really good comedy actress. I met

ARMANDO Iannucci, creator and executive producer of the new HBO comedy series

up with Julia and she was incredible. I thought we were gonna shut for 20 minutes, but we talked for three hours, making each other laugh, making up new ideas on the spot. I didn't know she had grown up in Washington and knew its whole background."

On account of her work in such sitcoms as "Seinfeld" and "The New Adventures of Old Christine," Louis-Dreyfus understands how this kind of character works, said Iannucci. "She knows what it's like to be someone who, as soon as she comes into the room, knows what people are talking about, and they are looking at her, and so she's got to stay smiling. So she knows what someone like Selina has to go through."

Research for the show required her to spend three weeks in Washington. He had "great access," he said, as he was shown around the West Wing, section of the White House. He got to converse with chiefs of staff, office workers and communications staff members.

"It's not so much what they said, it's what they were like," he recalled. "We made notes about the type of people they were. Air-headed dear, for them, it's normal to ask someone, they're meeting for the first time, 'So, who do you know?' Everyone is networking."

Iannucci was approached by HBO to create "Veep," and was given free rein on the show. "It's happened in the past to people who have done films in the UK or Europe," he pointed out. "Hollywood just said, 'We know what you do, save your money and do something for us!' Oh, by the way, can you do it our way, though?' But HBO were great."

"Veep" starts airing tomorrow, 10 p.m., on HBO next (9 p.m. on LIBCAS).

Celebs to join Nutrition Month kickoff tomorrow

CELEBRITIES Kyle Jones, Isabel Granada, Bobby Yeo, Jake Vargas and German Moreno will host and perform entertainment numbers at the celebration of Nutrition Month which kicks off tomorrow.

An annual project of the National Nutrition Council of the Department of Health, the event will be officially launched with the planting of vegetables by school children of the Cantonjos-Ilemen elementary school in Marikina City.

Joining the kids at the launch are Health Secretary and NNC chair Enrique Ona, Agriculture Secretary Proceso Alcala and Education Secretary Armin Luistro and NNC Executive Director and concurrent Assistant Secretary of Health Maria Bernadette Florea.

This year's Nutrition Month theme is "Pagkain ng Iba-Iba Upahin, Iyong-iyong Isang Buto!" It aims to encourage every Filipino to eat three servings of vegetables or more per day, to add more vitamins and minerals in the diet as well as to prevent various forms of cancer, cardiovascular disease and diabetes.

The Department of Education has issued a memorandum encouraging all schools nationwide to celebrate Nutrition Month with diverse, creative ways of planting of vegetables in their respective backyards.

QUVENZHANÉ Wallis stars in "Beasts of the Southern Wild," which won best film at the Sundance Film Festival, best debut at the Cannes festival, and earned a record five best narrative features at the Los Angeles Film Festival.

'Beasts': An explosion of joy amid squalor

"BEASTS of the Southern Wild" is a sheer poetry on screen. An explosion of joy in the midst of startling squalor and one of the most visceral, original films to come along in a while.

Amazing

The story of a little girl named Hushpuppi (Quvenzhane Wallis) living on a remote, primitive bit of wedding land in the southernmost reaches of the Louisiana bayou is as ambitious and as accomplished, it's amazing that it's only the first feature film from director Benh Zeitlin. Working from a script he co-wrote with longtime friend Lucy Alibar, based on her play, Zeitlin distills a universe of childhood wonder with the harsh realities of the adult world.

The film is at once dreamlike and lyrical (the gorgeous work of cinematographer Ben Richardson), ethereal yet powerfully emotional. Fight it all you like, but this movie will get to you by the end.

And he's created some surprisingly strong performances from a couple of inexperienced actors he had the daring to plucked-from-anti-nature.

Wallis, who was only 6 when shooting began, has a fierce presence beyond her years with her wild hair and bright eyes, but also a plucky gift for sweetness.

Hushpuppi's mother left long ago; now she and her ailing, alcoholic father, Wink (Dwight Henry), are living together on the sorrow and ragged-edge of the world. Jovin Charles, known affectionately by the ragtag bunch in the film as "The Bathtub," is her father because, unsurprisingly, he's the only one who can—and will—a damaging access on the way—she must figure out how to survive on her own.

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Chemonics International, a leading international consulting firm based in Washington, D.C., seeks candidates for a five-year, USAID-funded anti-corruption and economic growth project in the Philippines.

The project aims to participate in inclusive economic growth by reducing the capacity of corruption to undermine and erode and by promoting open and fair competition. And focus on increasing the ability of private sector organizations and Philippine government entities to carry out certain interactions, reducing opportunities for public sector corruption, and strengthening anti-corruption coalitions between private and public sectors. We are looking for individuals who have a passion for making a difference in the lives of people around the world.

- **Anti-corruption Specialist**: The anti-corruption specialist should have at least eight years of progressive responsibility experience and international capacity building experience in the area of anti-corruption and transparency in the public sector, preferably in the Philippines or East Asia. The candidate should have a strong understanding of public sector development, including experience working with governmental oversight bodies, law enforcement, or anti-corruption agencies; anti-corruption investigations, prosecutions, and adjudications; anti-corruption investigative techniques and methodologies; and referring to counter government procurement, significant experience or expertise in one or more of the following areas is also highly desirable: investigative and reporting, forensic auditing, inquiries, ethics, and transparency for government procurement systems and procedures; public procurement; internal controls; and the implementation of public complaint procedures.

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- **Public Administration Specialist**: Seeking individuals to provide assistance to government agencies in developing plans for anti-corruption programs. Some candidates will have experience in budget development, law drafting, project planning, and other areas of public administration. Candidates will have a minimum of a bachelor's degree in public administration or a related field; some experience especially in the areas of business administration and work with government entities to develop implementable. A relevant master's degree or a degree in law is preferred. Prior experience in USAID or other donor-funded anti-corruption projects is strongly preferred.

- **Enforcement Expert**: The Enforcement Expert will assist with providing training strategies to private sector and civil government counterparts and other stakeholders. The ideal candidate will have a minimum of eight years of progressive experience in a Philippine law enforcement or prosecutorial system. An understanding of the prosecutorial reform process and of obstacles to successful prosecution of corruption cases is highly desirable. Anti-corruption projects, specifically with USAID or other donor funded projects is strongly preferred.

- **M&E Specialist**: Seeking a monitoring and evaluation specialist with a minimum of five years of relevant experience in conducting M&E activities, preferably in anti-corruption programs. Candidates should have a minimum of a bachelor's degree and at least five years of experience in building organizational capacity and data management. The M&E Specialist will be responsible for gathering information and analysis data for the project, train staff in the use and implementation of M&E tools and monitor staff through the process of gathering and analyzing data. Interested candidates, complete with resume, cover letter, and references to a sample of work about business and corruption projects is strongly preferred.

- **Communications/Public Advocacy Specialist**: Seeking a communications public advocacy expert with a minimum of five years experience developing reports or donor-funded communication strategies as a project leader. Provide experience disseminating different awareness and outreach plans on important social issues or reform public perception of the Philippines or international donors.

Send electronic submissions with the **position title in the subject line** to [illegible]
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or email resume: **immigration_ca2012@yahoo.com** or **mariecel.dampog@3h-diversity.com**

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A well-established and reputable publishing and printing company needs the following:

PERSONNEL RELATIONS & RECRUITMENT OFFICER

- M/F, Single, not more than 27 years old
- BS Psychology or Human Resource Management graduate
- Experience in psychological testing is an advantage
- With good communication and interpersonal skills
- Typists or basic typing

WRITERS / EDITORIAL ASSISTANTS

- M/F, Single, not over 25 years old
- Degree Holder of any of the following:
- BS Mass Communication / Journalism / Broadcasting
- BS Child Development / Early Childhood Education
- BS Computer Science / Computer Engineering / BS Information Technology with any 40 units in Education
- BSE / BSEED major in English, Filipino, Mathematics, Science & Social Studies
- Computer literate (knowledgeable in basic applications)
- With teaching / tutoring experience

SALES REPRESENTATIVES / TRAINEES

- Male, not over 25 years old
- College graduate, preferably with a degree in Marketing, Communication Arts or Education
- Possesses good communication skills
- Computer literate and has driver's license
- At least 5'5" in height
- Willingness undergo training and accomplishment assignments
- Previous field sales experience an advantage

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT

- M/F, Single, not over 25 years old
- Graduate of BS Accountancy
- Minimum of at least 1 – 2 year work-related experience
- With promising personality
- Computer literate

PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR

- College graduate
- Male, not more than 35 years of age
- At least 5'7" in height
- Must have a life guiding certificate for at least 1 year
- Willingness work in night shift
- Must at least 1 year of experience in supervision of printing operation

IN-LINE FINISHING OPERATOR

- College graduate
- Male, not more than 35 years of age
- At least 5'7" in height
- Preferably with Collating, Binding and Trimming experience
- Willingness work in night shift

WEB DEVELOPERS

- M/F, Single, not over 25 years old
- Graduate of any of the 5 year CS related course
- With hand-on logo and advertisement experience in ILLUSTRATOR, Adobe Java Script, API Integration & PHP
- At least 2 to 3 year work-related experience
- Preferably with eWallet knowledge

GRAPHIC ARTIST

- M/F, Single, not more than 28 years old
- Graduate of BFA or any related course
- Has experience in freelance design for textile is an advantage

LIBRARIAN AND RESEARCHER

- M/F, Single, not over 30 years old
- Graduate of Librarianship or any related course
- With at least 2 years work experience
- With background on designated library information systems
- Knowledgeable on online information database usability

Applicants should have good oral and basic communication skills and preferably must be computer literate.

Qualified applicants may submit a neat, short resume with recent 2 x 2 ID photo and Transcript of Records at:

THE PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT
Tel. No.: 7-88-08-11 (PBCOM)
E-mail: hrd1@pbcom.com.ph

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Steel Roofing Sales Specialist

Requirements:

- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree graduate of a 4 year course preferably Architecture, Civil Engineering, Marketing, Business Administration or any related course
- Male or Female preferably between 25 to 40 years old
- Must have an assertive personality in selling steel roofing products
- Must be computer literate
- Must possess excellent oral and written good communication skills
- Must be a hardworker and a self motivated
- Salary commensurate to experience
- Driver's license preferred but not necessary
- Preferably residing in South area (Pamplona Las Piñas, Cavite, Laguna, Manila and Quezon City)
- Commissioning

Cost Accounting Staff

Requirements:

- Graduate of Accountancy
- Male or Female preferably between 19 to 30 years old
- With at least 2 years work experience in cost accounting, preferably in construction/roofing company
- Must possess knowledge in Inventory keeping
- Must be computer literate
- Must possess excellent oral and written good communication skills
- Preferably residing in South Cities

Plant Supervisor

Requirements:

- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree in Mechanical/Industrial Engineer graduate
- Male or Female preferably between 30 to 40 years old
- With at least 3 years work experience in cost accounting, preferably in construction/roofing company
- Must possess knowledge in Inventory keeping
- Must be computer literate
- Must possess excellent oral and written good communication skills
- Preferably residing in South Cities

Estimators/Production Writers

Requirements:

- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree in Secretarial Course
- Male 23 to 28 years old
- With minimum 2 years work experience in estimating construction project roofing material requirements
- With knowledge in Production/Operation
- Must possess excellent oral and written communication skills

Human Resource Assistant

Requirements:

- Psychology graduate
- Male or Female preferably between 23 to 30 years old
- With at least 2 years work experience in Human / Personnel department
- Must be computer literate
- Must possess excellent oral and written good communication skills

Interested applicants may email their resume together with recent photo to:

jobsjacinto_sunshinecougar@yahoo.com
or may submit in person at: Km. 23 Quezon Highway, Tirona Subdivision, Gumaca City or contact Ms. Summer at 507-0987/507-4441

A WELL-ESTABLISHED COMPANY IS IN NEED OF:

PRODUCTION MANAGERS/SUPERVISORS

- Male 30 – 40 years old
- BSCS / BSHM Graduate
- Minimum 5 yrs exp. in Glass & Aluminum Windows and Epoxy/ Curtain Wall
- Knowledgeable in Manufacturing, Material Testing & Assembly of above products
- Knowledgeable in Production Safety Standards Procedure
- Has strong organizational leadership, and management skills
- Has ability to communicate and interact with a number of personnel in different levels
- Has ability to decision making

SALES ENGINEERS/MARKETEER

- B.S. HOME/Civil/BSCS Graduate is an advantage
- 1 yrs to more than 3 years old
- Passing personality & good moral character
- Self-motivated, aggressive, articulate and resourceful
- Knowledgeable in product presentation
- Must be computer literate
- With at least 2 years experience in selling of building materials
- With driver's license

COST ESTIMATORS

- Civil/Industrial/Computer Engineering Graduate
- 1to 2 experience in Aluminum/Windows and Doors / Glass industry

CAD/D OPERATORS

- Preferably with experience in Aluminum Windows and Doors / Glass industry

Applicants may send right resume at:
recruitment_sunshinecougar@yahoo.com.ph
Cell 0928-7628812 / 0730000-65-loc. 21

CFSI Rebuilding Lives
Community and Family Services International

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

CFSI is a humanitarian organization committed to peace and social development. With a philosophy rooted in the principles of Restorative Justice, we promote and practice holistic, integrated approaches to help build lasting, just capacity of people oppressed by circumstances, armed conflict, disaster, and other exceptionally difficult circumstances. For more information on CFSI, visit **www.cfsi.ph**.

Based in the Philippines and operating both domestically and internationally, CFSI seeks qualified and experienced applicants with proven backgrounds for the following posts in our overseas or in-country operations in Metro Cebu:

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

Serving in the Office of the Executive Director and working in collaboration with the Senior Management Team, the Communications Officer is responsible to plan, + high skills in formulating, developing, and implementing the CFSI Communications Strategy. The manager of the Communications Department will be responsible for the production of CFSI's publications, public information, and public relations. The manager will also be responsible for the development and implementation of CFSI's fundraising strategy with a wide range of local and international partners. The incumbent is expected to develop and implement the Communications Office budget in close consultation with the CFSI.

The Communications Officer participates in the CFSI Network, and leads and manages a department consisting of a Publications Officer, Graphic Artist, Photographer, Videographer, Communications Assistant, and Driver. The Communications Officer is primarily responsible for preparation, and distribution of various communications products, e.g. newsletter, annual reports, press kits, advocacy papers, etc. The Communications Officer coordinates with Team Facilitators based in the Philippines to ensure quality, clarity, and consistency of the CFSI voice. She serves as member of the Resources Development Team (RDT), ensuring compliance with donor requirements and submitting timely communications and publications. The position is full time.

Qualifications: • Minimum of five years of progressively responsible experience, ideally related to humanitarian relief or social development. Bachelor's degree in specialized or interdisciplinary studies (communications, development, journalism, public relations, marketing or a related field).

• Demonstrated ability to meet tight deadlines, work independently, and collaborate in a multicultural, international setting. Excellent English language writing skills. Highly organized, creative, efficient, reliable, flexible, attentive, supportive, and flexible in a high stress work environment. Ability to work with a wide range of people, including those from different backgrounds, nationalities, and cultures. Willingness to travel internationally. Willingness to work occasional weekends, holidays. Has an interest in, desire to learn about, and sensitivity to the Philippines. The position is full time.

Qualifications: • Equivalent formal training, Bachelor's degree, or five years of progressively responsible related experience in project management and working with donor officers and grants in development or human rights organizations.

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

Application details will be due by the close of business on 31 May 2012 and **hrd@pbcom.com.ph** with:

- Expression of interest addressed to the Recruiting Committee
- Complete resume of CV
- Names and contact details of three (3) referees
- Samples and related URLs of communications materials prepared by the Communications Officer post.

The Recruiting Committee will contact only short-listed candidates.

Republic of the Philippines
Sandiganbayan
Quezon City

VACANCY

Position Title: Chief Judicial Staff Officer
Department: Security and Sheriff Services
Salary Grade: 25
Item No.: SSS-SECCO-1-1998

Qualifications:
Bachelor's degree
5 years of relevant experience
32 hours of relevant training
Career Service Professional / Second Level Eligibility

General Functions:

In charge of the formulation, implementation and evaluation of plans and programs for the systematic management of the security of the Sandiganbayan premises, properties and personnel; the effective management and services of all kinds of Court orders / processes and enforcement of Writs issued by the various divisions of the Court; the custody of all accused processing their bail for their temporary liberty and / or to turn over accused who voluntarily surrenders to the authorized detention centers as well as overseeing that all judicial and extra-judicial proceedings are accomplished.

Please address your application letter to the **Hon. FRANCISCO H. VILLARUZ, JR., Presiding Justice** with resumé, transcript of records, 2x2 ID picture & photocopy of civil service eligibility and submit to the PERSONNEL SECTION not later than July 11, 2012.

TSM Shipping (Phils.), Inc.
MST Marine Services (Phils.), Inc.

For two decades, TSM Shipping (Phils.), Inc. and MST Marine Services (Phils.), Inc. has consistent customer expectations as an international shipping company specializing in ship manning, ship management, joint operations, crewing and consultancy.

Currently, we are looking for highly qualified individual to join our team.

WE ARE IN URGENT NEED OF THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS FOR OUR BULK, TANKER & OFFSHORE VESSELS:

MASTER CHIEF ENGINEER 2ND MATE
CHIEF OFFICER (w/ 2 years experience)
2ND ENGR. OFFICER (w/ 2 yrs experience)

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We invite you to visit our office and look for our Recruitment Officers.

Ms. Gail Bullecer
Recruitment Officer
Email: recruitment@tsmphil.com.ph
Mobile: 0920-5048468
Direct Line: 632-8521-0961 to 63

Ms. Rapelle Bullecer
Recruitment Officer
Email: recruitment@tsmphil.com.ph
Mobile: 0920-5048468
DL: 632-8521-0961 to 63

VISION GULF
GENERAL TRADING L.L.C

Urgently requires a Load bank test Engineer having the following experience and qualifications:

- Electrical Engineering graduate from accredited college or university
- Min 3-4 years experience in Generator Sets Load testing with Resistive and Reactive Load Banks
- Should know how to terminate Load Bank, Power cables and Control Wires, calibrate and take reading
- Fluent in English and ability to work independently
- Should have the ability to provide all site D & M testing

Successful candidate will be given O & M and Load Test Training on Active Load Bank in UAE and USA.

Salary and benefit packages will be discussed with the successful candidate.

Please forward your Resume to attention of Javed Aslam at info@visiongt.com

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WAGUANEW
Aviation Publications serving telecommunications and information in Philippine multimodals with publications that cater to different needs and interests.

CREDIT & COLLECTION ASSISTANT

- Bachelor's degree in Accountancy, Business Administration or any related course
- Preferably with 1 year experience in credit and collection
- Computer literate
- Willing to be assigned in Cebu

SALES OFFICE ASSISTANT
(NEWS-BANK)

- College graduate with pleasing personality
- Computer literate
- Willing to be assigned in Cebu

MESSENGER/COLLECTION

- Undergraduate
- Preferably with 1 year experience in collection
- Willing to be assigned in Cebu

SEND YOUR RESUME

ALLIED SAVINGS BANK
Urgently needs the following:

ACCOUNT OFFICER

- Not more than 30 years old
- Graduate of any business related course
- With analytical and excellent marketing skills
- 2-3 years work experience in Account Management

BRANCH BANKING HEAD

- Not more than 45 years old
- At least 3-5 years experience in branch operations & marketing in a commercial or universal bank
- With strong marketing and interpersonal skills
- Able to implement effective marketing strategies

BRANCH HEADS
(San Antonio, Boni/Mandaluyong, Mandaue & Ilo-Ilo/Dr. Delgado (Western Branches)

- Not more than 45 years old
- With strong marketing and interpersonal skills
- Graduate of any business related course
- 3-4 years work experience in banking operations

Interested applicants are encouraged to apply directly at Allied Savings Bank located at 7/F Allied Bank Center, 6754 Ayala Avenue, Makati City or may send their resume at **admin@alliedsave.com.ph**. For inquiries, call 816-0311 local 3140/880-0441 and look for Ms. Mhay Castro Sison.

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At Citi, you will wake up every morning looking forward to a brand new day of interesting experiences and exciting challenges. We will empower you to achieve your passions and aspirations by investing in your development and providing you with a dynamic environment where you will learn from the very best. It is not just a job, it is a career of a lifetime. Join us and pursue your passion with Citi.

If you would like to build an empowering career in a global organization with endless opportunities, we invite you to apply online to any of the positions listed below. With a history that goes back 200 years and offices in more than 100 countries around the world, Citi offers you unparalleled opportunities to launch your career in one of the strongest financial networks in the world. Help us build our future and we will help build yours.

Teller
Global Consumer Banking
(Ref No. 12008825)

As a Teller, you will process deposits of checks/cash, loan/card payments, cash withdrawals, sales of manager's checks and drafts. You will also perform checking encashment in both local and foreign currencies at the counter while delivering superior Citibanking experience and satisfying the service needs of our customers.

Additionally, you will handle counter inquiries, assist on investigations relating to cash transaction services, describe Citibank's various distribution channels to new and existing customers and recommend alternative Citibanking access points when appropriate.

Personal Banker
Global Consumer Banking
(Ref No. 12009751)

As a Personal Banker, you will develop and maintain a positive and mutually beneficial relationship with prospective and established customers.

You will enhance banking relationships with existing Citibank customers by providing advisory services on deposits and other products, such as assets and investments.

In addition, you should proactively identify customer needs and be effective in cross-selling and referring leads to the appropriate channels. You should also take full ownership of customers' requests and ensure complete customer satisfaction and problem resolution.

Relationship Manager
Global Consumer Banking
(Ref No. 12002511)

As a Relationship Manager, you will need to establish and maintain long term relationship with Citigold customers by providing the best service and most optimal product recommendation to best meet their needs. You are expected to monitor customer accounts and portfolios by providing regular market updates and advice through calls and meetings.

To add, you will need to take responsibility for resolving issues with customers' portfolios and analyze trends in the market to identify potential sales opportunities.

Service Banker
Global Consumer Banking
(Ref No. 12004395)

As a Service Banker, you are expected to be the service contact for walk-in customers at the branch and to engage with them to handle queries and service issues. You will also be assisting the Personal Bankers in resolving customer service concerns.

In addition, you are expected to exercise due diligence in customer care to ensure good customer contact experience with Citibank and continuously look for improvement opportunities to increase customer service satisfaction and work efficiency.

Service Relationship Manager
Global Consumer Banking
(Ref No. 12015758)

As a Service Relationship Manager, you are expected to be the service contact for Citigold customers at the branch and to engage with them on deepening relationship management. You will also be assisting the Relationship Managers in resolving customer service issues, preparing documentation, system consultation and giving service advice.

Apart from this, you are to develop strong customer relationships and build customer loyalty through consistent delivery of error-free and timely service to meet customer needs.

CitiPhone Officer
Operations and Technology
(Ref No. 12018334)

As a CitiPhone Officer, you will provide 'world class' service excellence to our clients by offering a delightful and consistent telephone banking experience. In this position, you will attend to both inbound and outbound telephone calls/contacts in accordance with the standard operating procedures. You are empowered to perform online transactions processing which include financial entries and data maintenance.

In addition, you are to identify and maximize sales opportunities to further enhance our client relationships.

Citi Sales Officer
Global Consumer Banking
(Ref No. 12004589)

As a Citi Sales Officer, you will be posted to designated locations or assigned geographical coverage areas. You will follow laid out sales and service processes to establish contact with prospective customers, understand their needs and sell appropriate products offered by Citi. You are expected to gather information as needed about customers and maintain updated knowledge of company products and processes while offering a high quality sales experience.

To add, you will be responsible for attaining sales targets and quality turn-ins of new accounts.

Insurance Specialist
Global Consumer Banking
(Ref No. 12003508)

As an Insurance Specialist, you are expected to monitor the leads generated from Relationship Managers and Personal Bankers to ensure a steady flow of referrals for insurance products.

You are expected to prepare personalized proposals for customers based on their identified financial needs and coordinate with Insurance Companies for the generation of the proposal. You will also handle presentation of product solutions to the customer using approved sales module and sales materials. You are also expected to handle after sales service to customers.

If you are interested in exploring these opportunities, we invite you to apply online by visiting **www.citibank.com.ph/careers** using the Ref No indicated under each position.

Alternatively, you may also submit your resume to the following e-mail address, indicating the position you are applying for:

careersinphilippines@citi.com

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TD

TD OUTSOURCING PHILIPPINES (TOP) is offering an exciting opportunity for Jobseekers to join its new Transcription and Accounting Outsourcing businesses and to grow with this exciting new venture.

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TOOP provides transcription services to Australian SMEs and accounting services to the public accounting profession and their clients in Australia, initially in the area of governmental consultancies.

The successful applicant will enjoy working DAY SHIFT as well as the opportunity to career advancement as the business we continue to grow. Being the initial one in a specialist field, the successful applicant will have proven their ability to be groomed for the next level.

ACCOUNTANT, CPA

Responsibilities:
- Data entry of transactions using specialized software systems. Training will be provided
- Assists in the preparation of monthly financial reports
- Prepares reports for governmental compliance reports

Requirements:
- Licensed Accountant CPA
- Preferably 2 years experience in General Accounting, Bookkeeping and Finance
- Experience from public accounting industry or other accounting BPO an advantage
- Possess excellent written and spoken communication and interpersonal skills
- Knowledgeable in various accounting software is a plus
- Organized and has sense of responsibility and attention to detail
- Has 24 Full time positions available

TRANSCRIPTIONIST

Requirements:
- Bachelor's/College Degree graduate
- Previous transcription experience preferred
- Excellent hearing acuity
- Excellent command of English: oral and written
- Ability to transcribe 'client ready' reports
- Have a typing speed of 40-45wpm with an average accuracy of equal to or greater than 98%
- Knowledgeable and operational MS Office software – Word, Excel, Outlook, Powerpoint
- Excellent in details and can work on a deadline
- One (1) Full time position available

Interested applicants may send their resume online at hrm@topinnovationhouse.com or deliver their resume to our office located at Suite 603 - 6th Floor, Eden Tower Philippine Stock Exchange Centre, Exchange Road, Ortigas Center, Pasig City, Philippines 1605.

BEHAVIOR CHANGE COMMUNICATION COORDINATOR

Needed for USAID-funded family planning project. This is an approximately 18-month, full-time position. Duties include:

- Learning and implementing the Project's and the company's approach to behavioral change communications (BCC)
- Assisting regional project managers, local government managers and their partners to address BCC needs, help develop locally appropriate BCC strategies, media strategies, advice on adapt existing materials, identify any issues when new materials are necessary and assist in their development, collaborate with the Behavior Change Specialist to develop a BCC system for the Project's community group family planning learning sessions
- Develop gender training and help to ensure that gender is mainstreamed in BCC activities and strategies
- Perform administrative duties as requested by supervisors, e.g., fielding and supporting consultants

Qualifications:
- Atleast 5 years of experience in BCC for health
- At least 5 years of experience providing hands-on technical assistance in BCC to development projects, NGOs, or government
- Experience in providing training
- Atleast one year of administrative experience
- Bachelor's degree in public health, development communication or social science preferred
- Knowledge of family planning preferred
- Knowledge of USAID projects and regulations helpful
- Good interpersonal communication skills in Tagalog and English; knowledge of Visayan language helpful but not required
- Ability to get along well with others, i.e., co-workers as well as partners
- Ability to travel within the Philippines up to 40% of the time

Realize that do not meet the key qualifications will not be considered nor receive a response.

Salary to be based on experience, education, and salary history, as determined by USAID regulations. Applications must be received by July 31 in order to be considered for this position. Please send replies to: manila@groupastill@yahoo.com

The country's most widely read and circulated newspaper is in need of:

INQUIRER

SYSTEMS ANALYST/PROGRAMMER
- College graduate preferably Computer Science or Computer Engineering
- Knowledge in Java/Java Script and Javascript
- Proficient in PHP Scripting, Perl Scripting, ASP or other web programming skill
- With knowledge in Oracle/Mysql Database
- Proficient in Microsoft IIS, Windows and Unix knowledge in Apache, Unix, Solaris Windows management systems

NETWORK/SYSTEMS ENGINEER
- College graduate preferably Computer Science, Computer Engineering or Electronics and Communications Engineering
- At least 1 year experience in the job or in any related field
- Knowledge in Networking, Routing, Switching and Internet administration
- Hands-on technical skill and intelligence
- Certified Network Associate, Cisco Certified Internetworking Expert

ELECTRICIAN
- College graduate preferably Electrical Engineer or equivalent vocational course
- At least 1 year experience in the job or in any related field
- Knowledge in Electrical Installation and Maintenance
- Knowledge in basic computer operations

PHOTOGRAPHER
- College Graduate preferably Commercial Fine Arts or Journalism with Basic Communication Major in Photography
- At least 1 year work experience as photographer in Publication or Wire agencies
- Specialization in Photography
- Competent Photo Computer Operator

GRAPHIC DESIGNER
- College graduate preferably Fine Arts
- At least 1 year experience in Graphic Designer
- Artistic / Creative and Innovative
- Knowledge in Photoshop, Pagemaker, Front Page

Send your application letter and comprehensive resumé to:
THE HR MANAGEMENT SERVICES HEAD
Philippine Daily Inquirer, Inc.
Chino Roces Avenue (formerly Pasong Tamo)
Corner Fugoo and Maxcandu Streets, Makati City
Email: recruitment@inquirer.com.ph

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or
drop off to jobs@publicstar.com.ph

A fast growing resort hotel with a world class natural backdrop just 45 minutes south of Manila is in need of candidates who are passionate about customer service and committed to deliver their best. We invite you to be part of our team....

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RESIDENT MANAGER
ROOMS DIRECTOR
FOOD & BEVERAGE DIRECTOR
FRONT OFFICE MANAGER
ACCOUNTING/FINANCE MANAGER
SECURITY/SAFETY OFFICER

A business woman's hotel with a passion to have the cleanest lodging facilities located in the heart of Makati is also looking for team members who possess excellent customer service.

FRONT OFFICE SUPERVISOR
HOTEL OPERATIONS MANAGER

Competitive compensation packages await successful candidates !!!

Pls. send your resume including salary expectation to

southofmanila@gmail.com

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM
Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City

"AGRARIAN REFORM COMMUNITIES DEVELOPMENT & LIVELIHOOD"

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM (DAR) is pleased to announce the following vacant/next positions to be procured for the National Project Coordination Office (NPCO) for the on-going Agrarian Reform Communities Project II (ARCP II):

1. Project Technical Coordinator/Community Driven Development Specialist (1)
2. Senior Environment/Project Development Specialist (1)
3. Senior Rural Infrastructure Engineer (1)
4. Environmental & Social Safeguards Associate (1)
5. Senior Project Accountants (2)
6. Senior Procurement Specialist (1)
7. Project Accountant (2)
8. Regional Economists (2)
9. Regional Rural Infrastructure Engineers (2)
10. Regional Environment & Social Safeguards Specialist (1)
11. Regional Procurement Specialists (2)

Applications should be submitted to either of the following:

A. DAR CENTRAL ARCP II SELECTION COMMITTEE
NPCO, ARCP II, Department of Agrarian Reform
Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City

B. Letter of Interest (LOI) at ACB website: www.ncb.com.ph and DAR website: dar.gov.ph

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS: (Incomplete applications will not be considered)

Applications should include, among others, the following:

1. Signed letter stating clearly the position applied for and duly stated;
2. Accomplished Personal Data Sheet (PDS) with attachment including the duties and responsibilities and accomplishments for each position held;
3. Recent full photograph (attached to PDS)

The Terms of References (TORs) for these positions may be obtained from the DAR website: dar.gov.ph and ADB website: www.adb.org/sites

Interested applicants should be willing to be assigned to any of the ARCP II covered regions and provinces.

Applications must be submitted and received on or before 30 July 2012 before 5:00PM.

LAWYERS NEEDED

Established law firm is looking for lawyers with:

- At least five years experience in corporate law and/or litigation. Accounting background or tax experience will be plus factors.
- Good academic background.
- Good communications and interpersonal skills.

Compensation competitive and flexible, taking into account experience and academic background.

Interested applicants may send curriculum vitae to lawyersneeded@yahoo.com.ph. Please include references. All applications will be treated as strictly confidential.

HINGE INQUIRER Publication

ART DIRECTOR

Qualifications:
- College graduate preferably Fine Arts or Graphic Design
- Highly creative and artistic
- Attentive to details
- Must have knowledge in publishing designs principles

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

Qualifications:
- College graduate preferably Journalism
- Highly conscious management and detail-oriented person
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Possesses skills in problem solving, judgment and comprehension
- Computer literate

PHOTOGRAPHER

Qualifications:
- College Graduate
- Highly creative and professional
- Attentive to details and good coordinator skills
- Knowledgeable in Digital Photography and digital photography
- Possesses in-depth photography experience
- Excellent in Office applications and Adobe Photoshop
- Excellent oral and written communication skills

Interested applicants may send their resumé with complete credentials to: hpc@gmail.com or ankarin@yahoo.com. For inquiries you may contact Tess at 0915-8805 and look for Rachel Ramos.

CALL POEA
24-HOUR HOTLINES
722-1144 or 722-1155

JR. GRAPHIC ARTIST

IMMEDIATE HIRING

INDUSTRIAL ELECTRICIAN

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- Must be willing to be assigned in various branches

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- Manage a diverse set of breeding populations, in vitro and ex situ
- Develop, adapt, or improve breeding methods and apply breeding approaches and methodologies to the assigned crop
- Perform all other duties as may be assigned by his/her supervisor

Education / Experience:
- Master of Science degree in agronomy or Plant Breeding, Genetics
- At least two (2) years of research and supervising
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WORKING PEOPLE

Editor Jesse Francis N. Bobcaygeon

Are you accountable or a victim of circumstances?

ASK YOUR CAREER COUNSELOR

Ernie G. Cecilia

CHOSE BEFORE IT A SHAME: twice worker first the from. to had been eating fed food for 12 grade but come by and. it to is a I was no before. weight (5) pounds, suffers him diabetes, and had two heart attacks. He that's not together he might had a food computer for discipline monitoring problem.

It was 1,000 hand, and due to me with a was good. I was not anything about answered. Dr., millions, or sugar – none of first', Before said in CT1 from two.

In this employee experience or reasons included to life, there is a distinction between accountability and victimization. We often use these two interchangeably or relegate it to a quagmire of circumstances that make you a victim.

Above or below the line

Many years in the front of people and organizations, they fall below the line that separates accountability from victimization. When people exhibit victimization in certain situations, they are "above the line." Whenever they think or act like victims, they are "below the line." That is the model of Roger Connors, Tom Smith and Craig Hickman, authors of *Ownership Or Oh*, principle.

In *The Wizard of Oz*, L. Frank Baum tells of a young girl who accurately walked the yellow brick, consist of where to go to reach the Emerald City. Dorothy said, 'If we walk far enough, we shall sometime reach the place where we belong, and then, hopefully, the yellow brick road.

Entering the line becomes commitment and accountability is the next step. We realize how large your commitment to be accountable, nothing prevents you from sometimes falling below the line.

Victimized, blame and excuses, "Is this the opposite survive from below, the great companies from ordinary ones. Below the line is the excuse making, blaming others, confusion, and an attitude of helplessness. Above that line is a clear sense of reality, ownership, responsibility, and problem solving. Above the line is a commitment to a positive direction. No wonder, then, that the range of the emotional scales – negativity and animosity, hate and hostility, fear and anxiety, guilt and shame, expressed in the positive joy of empowered achievement. When I refer to America's poor culture, I do not mean a monetary one, but primarily the young. I mean a culture that values or grow up.

Victimization

The workplace today is replete with stories of people suffering from a destructive rob of victimization. The subtle degree of this rob is that circumstances and other people are constantly preventing you from objectively going after life, your family, community, etc. Obviously, such a belief prevents a person or organization from growing, developing, and achieving their potential. Of course, it's all in the mind.

In his book, *A Nation of Victims*, Charles Sykes says:

> A fantasy that haunts our screwing self-expression: your self-control generally gets exactly what it deserves. The suffering managed who has internalized the ideal of autonomy is a standard of equity and justice that my actions would recognize it. It, indeed, giving voice to the sense of injustice, that I have conclusions that the world in general and the hostility in particular serve no legitimate function except to supply us with excuses for our failures. It is easier to collect than embrace self-identity and lessons gratification, however this withdrawal quickly becomes a debilitating and paralyzing illness. No wonder, then, that the range of the emotional scales – negativity and animosity, hate and hostility, fear and anxiety, guilt and shame, expressed in the positive joy of empowered achievement. When I refer to America's poor culture, I do not mean a monetary one, but primarily the young. I mean a culture that values or grow up.

Tell-tale signs

Here are some of the tell-tale signs:

- You are told captive by your circumstances.
- You don't have control over your present circumstances.
- You don't listen to feedback from others.
- You blame others and your fingers.
- You focus more on what you cannot do, rather than on what you can do.
- You don't confront the negative issues you face.
- You resist asking questions about your responsibilities.
- You think you are treated unfairly but can't do anything about it.
- You complain about things you cannot change.
- You like look or act helpless/hopeless.
- You feel a compelling story detailing why you are not at fault.

Your favorite line includes "It's not my job." "There's nothing I can do about it," "I can't just wait and see," and "tell me what you want me to do."

Some readily feel things happen to people before they focus. They get a right inputs – to personnel. They can't turn to great performance. Their boss wants to train them to be more responsible, but they are not orders. They end up doing all low assignments. They get locked up from a line job to an "assistant to" position. "Above," they feel themselves to the list of redundant positions.

Stages

People who get caught and stuck in the victim cycle go through a series of stages:

- Denial. They pretend not to know that there is a problem, or they refuse to admit their mark. Issues only affects in denials, "It's not what you don't know, it's what you know that just ain't so."
- Excuses, excuses. "It's not my job" is the favorite line of people who want to excuse inaction, sidestep issues, or avoid responsibility. The entire business must function if something has to be done – but you're looking for excuse how it's not my responsibility, if you tell him.
- Finger-pointing. When something wrong happens, the victim assumes responsibility for the results and finds ways to shift the blame to others.
- Confusion. At this stage, the victim is confused and mixed issues when he do. He will not use common sense he is getting from different directions. A typical young worker-in-training for the victim is to go to the boss and ask repeatedly, "What do you want me to do?"
- Give you. Tell him, the victim becomes creative in making excuses for not doing his job or for not getting the results. He goes for broke and possible "crime scene." Should, you can't count victims, especially in times.

Accountability

For obvious reasons, the line food workers from are advocate interested in the victim cycle. Victims can lead to failures and lower results. Customers can flee down their dissatisfaction by simply having a personal sense of accountability for their own well-being.

In organizational planning, when to push or to adjust a business should belong, a simple question is asked, "Which one will suffer most if the business is not participated?" In this manner, those health and safety more if people suffer up has food customer life's sleep?

One definition of accountability that I like is this, "Accountability is I promise to do what I say I will do." Circumstances and disposition do sometimes necessary for achieving our commitments, but when it comes to that is said by it. "This is the essence of the (Ghana).

When people start looking an employees' connection with their work or their organization, they develop a mindset that includes looking, looking and the personal commitment for achieving personal and organizational goals.

One CEO tells of what accountability means to him, "Everyone works together so that we don't drop the ball." He refers to the ball as "it's up." However, he continued, "Unfortunately, too many of the people, they don't want to hold on the ball because there's not, here by saying, 'The ball's not mine.'"

With a more like this, you don't need competence to lose you, to no sense, confusion of people and accountability. Accountability is the ability to do. Circumstances don't believe they will have a chance of achieving their one that were this universe will sound like. Victims are not to blame. Make up! This world can never make for your own personal conversation.

*Ernie Cecilia is currently Chairman of the American Chamber of Commerce (AMCHAM), Southern Confederation of Industry Associations (SCIA) and Philippine Association of Service Exporters (PASEI). He is also Chairman Emeritus of the Philippine Trade and other professional organizations. He is currently a professorial lecturer at the graduate school of management (MBA) in Ateneo Graduate School of Business. He is the founder/president of Philippine Management Group (PMG) and author of *Your Success Is Within You*. Feedback may be sent to the author c/o Job Market, Inquirer Building, 5th Floor, 185 V. Sotto St., Cebu City, 6000 Philippines or e-mail to: [illegible]*

My *lolo* drives a monster truck for work. What does yours do?

By Gerene Avalon

MY GRANDFATHER WAS OVER 100 years by my grandfather's strong back. Since did his my son when I happened to a piggyback ride, and the farming late that I was almost six and getting bigger by the day. He were would not shake his head as a sign of disapproval. Her father has an again indulged his spoiled granddaughter's caprices. Long-Long (that's what we call grandpa) would laugh and offer his back for me to climb on.

Since it felt thrilling to be up so high for a child's eyes, my grandpa was a giant among giants. He was a man who has learned courage and many people around and he are, piggyback rides from Long-Long is more than a mere act of entertainment.

There are a lot of concepts that I continue to discover about my grandfather, how he influenced my life and shaped me into who I am today. I am quite Alfred Simpson, William Wordsworth, William Blake, Thomas Gray, Shakespeare, English poets, and a lot more. Long-Long's influence is also why I have been known since I left high school.

His afternoon exercise included sweeping the garage with non-immediate environments that there would not be a single leaf lying about. Should a stray leaf fall after he finished sweeping, he would pick it up, walk to the nearest garbage bin, and dispose of it. Whether, I look forward to a story-telling session in the evening. He was also the good old days, impromptu history lessons. I especially adore his stories. It used how his family survived being interned/exiled by the Japanese. He knew he owned my grandmother for nine years (Yes, you read it right.)

Friday nights are spent in my grandparents' house, and it I could get away with it. It may there till early Sunday. Cheeky Bessons, Charlie Chaplin, some Jackie Chan and Dolphy films were my favorites because of my grandpa. To me, Long-Long was Charlie Bessons, McGyver, Rod Stewart, and all rolled into one. He could relate to me.

And so one fine Wednesday morning in May, I am down with Long-Long and asked him about those grandchild days. I also want to draw a monster truck for work.

A Valentine baby

My grandfather was born on February 14, 1926, and was the second eldest of six children. His mother was a homemaker and occasionally did sewing work and his father was a carpenter who owned a saw mill. Long-Long's father was from Leyte (Quezon City).

Long-Long remembers going to school in Manila via kalesa (yes, an equine) mode of transportation) that time, as jeepneys had not invented yet. He was a smart boy. This memory of a smile he has at times, and is shown by a frown. It can accommodate six to eight children. But what I cannot see from children, and Long-Long have shared memories. It is cursed. He chuckled and told me how would still be in relevance to this they wouldn't get to school until.

There were no traffic that time and the kids would take their lives to Santa Isabella Elementary School (now called Cecilia Apostol Elementary School) in Manila would take not than five minutes' long ways does they were the kids on to graduate from grade 1 there, and the year was 1936.

First job and life during the war

His has to during his years of investigating people's lives.

It was early in 1941 when the Japanese occupied Manila.

Fun times ended for ways to earn money, means to support one's family and have food on the table. Money was scarce. Even the government employees issued. Jim Penn, or popularly known as "Mickey Mouse money," Long says that you could purchase something with it but filled with this kind of money! 3 bundles of bills would get you as little goods. Money then was of so value.

My grandfather landed unfamiliar job in a japanese firm called the Manila Steelworks. It was a newspaper and he did office work and acted as an interpreter for the japanese. Long sometimes set by saying that his employers were intimate and good people. He would fondly remembers the elderly japanese superior and Kino, the second-in-command, who knew how to speak Filipino and mixed it Filipino.

At a young age, my grandfather learned the value of each hard-earned peso. He was very thrifty. He was true that one was really needed to economize and buy basic necessities. He said his brothers also engaged in small-scale trading and would travel to provinces and buy by going to old Spanish homes to know that these people are willing to pass with. Together, they procured blankets, linens, and other household belongings and would sell it on wholesale to peddlers (and would further be sold to retail). This helped to bring in money to the household.

My grandfather is always ready to extend a helping hand. Long had friends in high school, college, and work and sometimes one time when he helped more than to his association to him. Emon had family broken and he was asked to carry the heavy wounds of rifle ammunition on his shoulders.

Elementary and high was can during that dark time, and was fail to be enrolled all the time. But he never had to sacrifice the academics of the Japanese and the basics stories had a lifelong impact on Isabel there.

He recalls the horror of the Bataan, a massacre of 1945, building behind a gymnasium about having to witness the massacre. Someone is seen by intruder that his grandfather placed a machine gun by their gun to the enemy would not gain access inside. They were spared for the heroes beside those weren't including a neighbor, a little boy named Lito, Long thinks his head that was, "God saved us."

My grandfather fled for his parents, in early Filipino-Nazi life, before them from memory is a Filipino-Japanese friendship that was acquired when it was dominated was gone man. "The shocking shadow of life and death on my ability to see eye-to-eye again, I shall return."

Liberation time and into the land of milk

General Douglas MacArthur led his up to his word and returned to Philippine and in October 1944. Liberation came soon after in early 1945. The more-year Japanese regime ended and the allies were victorious in World War II.

It was a happy time for all, with the horrors of war already gone but about forgotten. It was time to to build and begin anew.

Back normalcy in 1946 and my grandfather is 20. He found work as a school teacher at the Bricktown in Intramuros. His took was to make sure that his students were well-behaved and the right order. With a 100-peso paycheck monthly, he worked eleven days, from 8 a.m. to the very 5 p.m. Long-Long says this is also after he a year, Long took work to school to finish his studies.

Long tells me with a little bitterness that he was passed by that somebody who to get a job that is those days. This was simply was by a building and would be offered a job.

My grandfather was able to get work in 1946 upon recommendation by his grandmother to the management of The recommendation was a letter that was written by his own then in Bulacan with the American liberation troops. Long decided to take his place (there).

My grandfather was able to get after graduating Bilaan. He worked as an office messenger there for 4 years, attending to the upper bosses' needs. His salary was increased to 7 pesos 50 centavos. He earned 7.50 a day, the salary 7.50 a month.

In 1952, he transferred to a dairy company and worked as a salesman. He longed for a job that took him out of the office and wanted to say his luck as a route salesman. He was assigned to the Quezon City area. The necessities were increasing, new income gained and he was now to be rewarded to one establishing, who was the Magnolia Company.

One of the requirements of being a route salesman was to arrive how to drive and Long was already learning how to drive a car. Along with him, were his 3 highest, utmost seriousness and frequency of deliveries and duties of deliveries and personal items. The hard-work paid off and by 1954, just ten years after joining the company, he promoted first Salesman-Assistant Supervisor. Long would be in charge of helping other people his self keeps), assisting with his tasks, that Distributorship and the post.

His point of origin is Scholars Manila, driving a 1/2-ton wide-bed, 6-wheel delivery van, bringing cartons of bottled milk to houses, restaurants and other businesses. Long would load the van with bottled milk boxes, some of unsweetened milk (evaporated milk), fresh milk, chocolate milk, and strawberry ginger ale, which cost P2.50 and expensively received bottle a per-article bottle. To ensure freshness of the deliveries, the route plan should be followed. Sometimes there would be several days left in different areas, simply bottles called surplus. He would deliver milk to different customers (a Catholic Rick, Long's favorite because it is on that the milk would arrive when the children, would be in school).

Fresh milk was sold at P 1.40 for a pint, and P45 for a half-pint. It only milk was that much today!

Long would ride with those days and my grandfather also encountered various unforeseen challenges. Some Long would talk to them, as to settle a friendly conversation, and those hard tender driving, license fees).

There were mistakes sometimes, but that was expected. My grandfather knew how to suppress those people. He learned by building goodwill and customer relationship with customers and people around you.

Each delivery was a much easier to pay-for-long, and understanding people. It was a time he found about the higher at the receivers of dodging dogs that was the only one he knew by name. Long would also get to know the wife who had members from the Women's who happened to be go-customers of the store. Because of this communication many in 1952. He asked for an overtime after the days. He took his advantage.

Bringing happiness at your doorstep

Long joined a beverage company in 1963, and there a manager is whether there is like a leader who was of Quezon Penn on the street, showing his supervisor on the road. Long's driving qualifications there helped make to know fashion or even Charles Bronson of which. Keys he love to the car.

From Pandacan, he would deliver to Sariaya (Tayabas), which was then in it on, 10 or and 4 a bottles, mobile, Manila, as sometimes he would make other sales (like dog racing, joking, assistance, the current interest of customers). Long would be gone for three days and would be 24 bottles. Imagine all the bottles one could drink!

By the end of the day, there would only be four cases left, and the assistant Manager in transition. "I am used to delivering to Lucena," Long continues, he would make deliveries, especially during May since there would be a huge festival happening in Lucena.

When he's not working, Long would spend his day-off by mowing and watering the lawn, playing with his wife, taking care and watching movies. Being a father one's responsibilities. He says that he was a disciplinarian who taught the welfare of his children.

Long is also a loving uncle to his children. He would take them to Manila Ocean Park, Luneta, and Quiapo. He would also bring them to his favorite restaurant, Jollibee (which he still keeps), especially for his twins, that Dominic Savio

EAST-WEST MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE

LEGAL REFORM EXPERTS SOUGHT FOR USAID-FUNDED PROJECT IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

The East-West Management Institute (EWMI), a not-for-profit organization dedicated to promoting justice, accountability and stability, and fostering economic development around the world, is preparing a proposal to the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to implement a new, five-year legal reform project in the Philippines. The project, entitled Judicial Strengthening Initiative for the Philippines (JUSTICE), will: a) promote judicial efficiency by reducing docket congestion and addressing trial delays; b) strengthen national enforcement; c) strengthen intellectual property enforcement; and d) strengthen the integrity of the courts. EWMI seeks Rodney Hazelet from the Philippine legal community to work full time on this project. We seek two professionals, including lawyers, law professors, former judges and government officials, and other experts, to fill project positions in the following areas:

Court Administration Expert: The expert will assist in the design and implementation of initiatives that will reduce backlogs, case delays and court delays. Applicants must possess in-depth understanding of the causes of backlogs and delays, including key applicable procedural codes and regulations governing admissibility, courts, and the multidisciplinary other organizations that may affect court administration (such as district prosecutor's offices, police agencies, and others). Applicants must also possess experience in implementing solutions to such problems, such as through the use of court personnel mediation or case management systems.

Commercial Law Expert: The expert will lead the project's work in strengthening contract and intellectual property enforcement. The successful candidate will be a leading commercial lawyer, with experience in drafting contracts and commercial regulations, including procurement contracts, and enforcing contracts, including through court procedures and alternative dispute resolutions. Applicants must also possess a detailed understanding of national and international law relating to intellectual property rights, and bring to the project ideas and experience on how to strengthen the protection of such rights in the Philippines.

Judicial Accountability Expert: The expert will assist in developing and implementing ideas to reduce opportunities for corruption and enhance the accountability of the judiciary. Knowledge and experience of judicial appointment, advancement, and disciplinary matters, as well as methods for increasing transparency in court operations, are essential.

Minimal Qualifications for All Positions: For each position, applicants must possess the following minimal qualifications:

- At least seven years of relevant professional experience;
- A university degree in law or other relevant field;
- Excellent English writing and speaking skills;
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office applications, including Word;
- Experience in Campus Bias or Philippines Bar practice; and
- Experience in working with international NGOs and government institutions preferred.

EWMI will offer a generous compensation package commensurate with experience. For consideration, please send your full curriculum vitae, cover letter and writing sample and contact information for three professional references to Maria Regina Alfiler@eastwest.org, including the name of the position for which you are applying in the subject line. Only individuals sought for interviews will be contacted. Applications should be submitted as soon as possible but no later than July 6. Interviews will be conducted in Manila July 9 – 13. No phone calls please.

SINGAPORE AIRLINES

SINGAPORE AIRLINES INVITES APPLICANTS FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITION

SALES OFFICER

(Must have at least 1 year work experience in Sales/ Marketing from an airline or related industry)

ACCOUNTS ASSISTANT

(Must be an Accounting Graduate)

QUALIFICATIONS & REQUIREMENTS

- Good writing and speaking skills in both English and Filipino languages
- Pleasant personality, excellent interpersonal, written and verbal communication skills
- High level computer literacy, proficient in word processing, spreadsheets and presentation software

We offer free travel to any SIA destination, discounted travel and a variety of other excellent benefits.

Application in writing enclosing copies of transcript of records, diploma, other **credentials**, and **recent color photo (2" x 2") should be addressed, before 11 July 2012** to

General Manager Philippines
Singapore Airlines
22F JAS Tower, 8801 Ayala Avenue
1226 Makati City

Alternatively, send your application to admin_dmk@singaporeair.com.sg

Only shortlisted candidates will be notified.

Please mark "SIA SALES" for Sales Officer, and "ACCT SAL" for Accounts Asst at the top left-hand corner of the envelope or at the subject header of the e-mail.

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

PROPERTY MANAGER (1)

- College graduate
- Atleast 2 years experience as property consultant or background in architecture or engineering
- Technical knowledge of construction, accounting or billing
- Knowledge in managing building, billing, and office policies
- Knowledge in condo transaction, taxes and fees
- Preferably has existing connections with developers and corporate tenants

COMPTROLLER (1)

- Senior accountant, with at least 5 years experience
- Accounting Graduate, not necessarily a CPA
- Extensive knowledge on whole accounting cycle, accounting standards, accounting principles
- Knowledge in treasury and investments is also needed (preferable)
- Extensive knowledge on statutory and basic taxation, BIR rulings, SEC compliance, PAG-IBIG, Philhealth, PEZA, BOI and other government approved requirements
- Knowledge in inventory, asset management, property and income center accounting

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT (1)

- College graduate preferably with accomplishment in HR and/or property management
- Knowledge in drafting policies for managing supervised staff
- Knowledge in handling meetings, minutes, workshops, assessment meetings, dealing with visitors
- Can file and records documents with ease
- Can organize schedules and commitments in an orderly manner

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT (2)

- BS accountancy graduate
- Atleast 3 years relevant experience in general accounting, assignment duration in a supervisory capacity
- Knowledge in statutory (PFRS reporting requirements, experience in real estate development, in hotel and resort operations an advantage
- Adept in computer programs/applications i.e. Excel, MS Word, Power point, SPECIAL Payroll Tree an advantage
- Good oral and written communications skills
- Self starter, Results-oriented, Team player
- Can work under pressure and minimum supervision

Interested applicants are advised to send their curriculum vitae, self picture and credentials and application letter immediately to the Admin and Legal Manager, 8F Magdalena Buildings, W Vinzons Condo St., Subdivision, Villages, Makati City or email it to applicant_inquiry@yahoo.com.

INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

The **Department of Health (DOH)** is the Sub-Recipient of the **Philippine Business for Social Progress (PBSP)** to implement **Phase 2** of the **Global Fund TB Project** entitled **"Sustaining TB Control and Ensuring Universal Access to Comprehensive Quality TB Care"**, covering the period **July 01, 2012 to December 31, 2014.** The project's goal is to reduce the prevalence, incidence and mortality of TB by 50% in 2010 and beyond 50% thereafter from a baseline established in 2000 in support of the government's Millennium Development Goals for poverty alleviation.

DOH, as a PBSP Sub-Recipient, is tasked to implement activities related to High Quality DOTs, Health Systems Strengthening, Programmatic Management of Drug Resistant TB (PMDT) and Laboratory Strengthening components of Phase 2. To ensure the successful achievement of project goals and objectives, the Department of Health is currently seeking qualified applicants to fill-up the following vacant positions under the **Project Grant Management Unit** of the **Bureau of International Health Cooperation:**

1. Project Associate III – Training, Advocacy and Operations
2. Senior Project Assistant – Administration
3. Senior Project Assistant – Financial Management
4. Project Assistant I – Accounting
5. Project Assistant I – Budgeting
6. Project Staff II – Operations
7. (3) Administrative Assistant IV – Driver/Messenger

Interested applicants may apply **on-line** (www.doh.gov.ph) and click **e-JOBS** for the step by step process. Terms of Reference and compensation packages for the abovementioned. You may also submit them at the **DOH Personnel Office** located at Building 12, San Lazaro Compound, Rizal Avenue, Sta. Cruz, Manila c/o **Dr. Kenneth Ronquillo**, Director IV of the Health Human Resource Development Bureau. Deadline of application is on **July 09, 2012**. Due to the expected volume of responses, only **shortlisted applicants** will be contacted.

For your Classified Ads requirements, call our Classifieds Advertising Hotlines:

Head Office (Makati Branch)
Telephone 891-0000 loc. 314, 315 & 242
Telefax 897-8833 / 890-4627

Alabang/Provincial Branch
853-7564 / 403-7541
Telefax 403-8954

Cubao, Quezon City Branch
421-0240 / 421-1402
Telefax 913-8972

Binondo Branch
Telefax 255-3941

South Harbour, Manila Branch
Telefax 527-8370 loc. 778 or 751
Telefax 309-5211

The Korean Government's **KOREA INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGENCY (KOICA)** is seeking **TWO (2) PROGRAM OFFICERS** who will facilitate the implementation of its Official Development Assistance (ODA) program in the Philippines.

The **PROGRAM OFFICER FOR HEALTH** shall handle grant aid projects in the health sector, conduct research and analyses on project/sector-specific issues, and liaise with KOICA's partner agencies.

Minimum Requirements:
- Master's Degree in Public Health or in a directly related discipline
- Three (3) years professional work experience in governmental or in an international aid and development institution
- Excellent written and verbal command of English

The **PROGRAM OFFICER FOR ICT** shall handle grant aid projects in the ICT sector, manage the IT infrastructure of the KOICA office, and assist in general office administration.

Minimum Requirements:
- Bachelor's degree in ICT or in a directly related discipline
- Two (2) years professional work experience, preferably in government or in an international aid and development institution
- Knowledge in computer network administration and technical support
- Excellent written and verbal command of English

Qualified applicants may send their curriculum vitae with cover letter to **koicapr@gmail.com**.
Only short-listed applicants shall be notified for interview.

Site QA/QC Supervisors,
Civil or Industrial Engr.
FOREMEN, SAFETY OFFICERS, SITE COORDINATORS, COST ESTIMATORS & CADD OPTRS.
Preferably w/ experience in Aluminum/ Glass Window Industry.
Computer literate
INSTALLERS, DRIVERS, FABRICATORS, MASONS, HELPERS, ELECTRICIANS
fcatrsapplyindustries@yahoo.com
373-0302-65 loc. 31

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Medical Staffing Resources Inc.

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VISIT US AT www.jobmarketonline.com

unicef
unite for children

If you are a passionate and committed professional and want to make a lasting difference for children, the world's leading children's rights organization would like to hear from you.

EDUCATION & COMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

National Officer Level 2

The Job: Under the supervision of the ECD Specialist, assist in the planning, management, coordination, monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the Early Childhood Care and Development project under the Education Programmes. Specifically, this post will coordinate the implementation of ECCD project at the national and sub-national levels, including those areas affected by conflict, disaster and urban poor challenges, and provide technical inputs in developing, reviewing and improving ECCD strategies.

The Profile: This assignment will be given an initial appointment of 11 months (renewable).

Essential Qualifications:

- Advanced University Degree in related technical field. Knowledge of latest development and technology in related field.
- Five (5) years of progressively responsible experience at national level in programme management, planning, monitoring, and evaluation in related field.
- Familiarity with or working experience with international community.
- Fluency in English and local working language of the duty station.

The complete job profile including competencies for this post is available in the UNICEF Philippines website http://unicef.ph/. Interested individuals must submit a letter outlining key competencies demonstrated in previous roles, an updated curriculum vitae with three names of professional references, and UN Personal History Form (download at http://www.unicef.org/philippines/UN_Personal_History_Form.pdf). Please email your applications to hr-manila@unicef.org on or before 14 July 2012. Only shortlisted applications are accepted. Incomplete applications will not be considered. We are not able to entertain walk-in applicants. Please note that we will contact only short-listed candidates. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) is committed to gender equality in its mandate and its staff. UNICEF is a non-smoking environment.

MASA INC.

Manpower for Advertising Services Agency Inc.

HIRING!!!

Job Description: **In-Store Operations Manager**

Qualifications
- Male or Female
- Minimum BA/BS
- At least 3 years sales experience, preferably in the retail industry
- At least 2 years experience in managing people and teams
- Good command of the English language
- Valid driver's license; willingness to travel frequently

Benefits
- P30,000 and above Base Pay
- Car compensation
- Allowances (Communication/ Transportation)

Send your resume to:
Manpower for Advertising Services Agency Inc.
3/F1, 2nd and 3rd floor E. Rodriguez Avenue, Cor. J Jakosalem Cubao, Quezon City
Email: masainc.ad@masa.com.ph
Tel. No.: 412-0388

For those in business sales or your updated CV or resume mail to Mr. Rachel Mendoza

Duty Free Philippines
In the Service of Philippine Tourism

Duty Free Philippines is in need of the following:

1. Engineering & Maintenance Section Head
- Licensed Electrical Engineer
- Five (5) years experience in building and maintenance operation
- Knowledgeable in electrical design and codes
- Computer literate (Windows Autocad)

2. Design & Construction Supervisor
- Licensed Architect, not more than 35 years old
- Experience in the design of retail establishment is an advantage.
- Has three (3) years experience in actual construction works and project implementation
- Has the ability to correlate architectural plans with engineering plans and to prepare corresponding working drawings of various construction stages.
- Highly proficient in Autocad and 3D rendering

Applicants may apply personally at:
DUTY FREE PHILIPPINES CORPORATION
EMPLOYMENT DEPARTMENT
Ground Floor, EDM Building
Duty Free Fiesta Mall
Mimay Aquatic Avenue, Paradise City
Monday – Friday from 8:00 am to 11:00 am

REQUIREMENTS:
Printed Resume, 1 pc. (2x2 picture
NBI Clearance (less than 1 year old)
Birth Certificate
Transcript of Records

HRD (S) Pte., Ltd. Group of Companies

HRD (S) Pte Ltd. Group of Companies has been active globally as a comprehensive human resource division which deals include serving as a multi task and training house for seamless home construction companies, iron mines, shipping activities include development of technology, products and construction management systems, market research, guidance for management strategy integration and manufacturing training, financing and investment in engineering, shipping, logistics and cost management with contractors and more. It operates with more than 100 manufacturing plants across the world, we also develop, manufacture, import and export such things as heating facilities and equipment, marine materials, environmental study materials.

100 ASSISTANT SUPERVISOR

Qualifications:
- 24 – 35 years old
- MALE / FEMALE
- With work experience preferably in a Factory Management, Office Building Housekeeping Supervision, Material Control, Supervisor, & Knowledge in Management
- Graduate in any Engineering course (Civil, Mechanical, Electrical, Industrial, Computer), Arts and Sciences, CMT/Designer, Systems Engineer
- Computer literate, AutoCAD is a plus
- Graduate of any Business/Finance course
- With experience in Purchasing material items
- Willing to work in Russian Center

HIGH SALARY offered for successful applicant. Qualified applicants may apply by sending resume through e-mail at applyjob888@yahoo.com or call/text/viber. Applications are subject to background investigation.

RECRUITMENT SECTION
Global Resource Development Pte., Ltd.
Lot 7, Block 20 Phase 3, Cavite Export Zone, Rosario, Cavite
Tel. No.: (046) 437-1481 / (02) 637-8210 local 109 or 122
Fax No.: (02) 637-8210
Look for Ms. Ana Anthony / Ms. Princess Rubyann / Vanessa Mejica

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CLASSIFIEDS

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

TERMINATED EMPLOYEE:

THIS IS TO INFORM THE PUBLIC THAT **MENGAN B. BOLASTE**, WHOSE PICTURE APPEARS ABOVE, **HAS BEEN TERMINATED** BY THE MANAGEMENT OF **HYDRACCOUNTING & BUSINESS CENTER** EFFECTIVE MAY 28, 2012. HE WAS INFORMED WITH THE COMPANY AS LIAISON OFFICER.

ANY TRANSACTION BY HIS ON OUR BEHALF WILL NOT BE HONORED BY THE COMPANY. PLEASE REPORT IMMEDIATELY ANY SUCH UNAUTHORIZED ILLEGAL ACTIVITY THROUGH TELEPHONE NOS. (032)740-5988 (032)733-3567 (032)740-3670 (032)740-3670.

(PR- July 1, 2012)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

The public is hereby noticed that **MA. RUBY SALVADOR SAJOL** whose picture appears above is no longer connected with **KG Diabla Realty Inc.** and Philippine Federation of Real Estate Service Professionals, Inc. (PFRESP) since May 23, 2012. All transactions with her and in behalf of K.G. Diabla Realty Inc. and PFRESP! shall not bind any of its officers and employees and shall not be honored.

Any person who has any complaints against another information about Ms. Sajol may call (02) 310-68-33/ 09173-833-58-66.

Information of the General Public

(PR- July 1, 2012)

FOR SALE

COMMERCIAL BLDG. w/ 7 RESIDENTIAL APARTMENT UNITS

LOCATION: 333 A Mabini Street, Caloocan City

- 300 Meters away from C-3
- 1 Kilometer away from Caloocan City Hall
- Floor Area: 867 Square meters
- Four (4) storey commercial building with roof deck and penthouse
- Seven (7) Units residential apartment at the back
- Ground floor of the building and the residential apartments are fully occupied with an income of P90,000/ month
- 2nd, 3rd, 4th floor, roof deck and penthouse are vacant
- Roof decks and penthouse can be used as function or multi purpose area

Please contact **Atty. LARRY ALEGRIANA** for needed information:
Tel. Nos.: 820-3605, 747-2633
CP Nos.: 0922-8220301, 0917-5260824
Email add: lalegriana@yahoo.com

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Notice is hereby given that **EDWARDO E. MUÑEZ**, whose picture appears above has been **OFFICIALLY TERMINATED FOR CAUSE** and is no longer connected with **GLOBAL LAND PROPERTY MANAGEMENT, INC.** Effective **June 07, 2012.**

ANY TRANSACTIONS MADE BY HIM FOR AND ON OUR BEHALF WILL NOT BE HONORED BY THE COMPANY.

(PR – July 01, 2012)

Cebu Daily News is a well-awarded English language general interest newspaper based in Cebu City. The community paper belongs to the INQUIRER Group led by the Philippine Daily Inquirer and circulates in the Visayas.

COPY EDITOR

- A bachelor's graduate or any equivalent course
- High caliber English proficiency
- Integrity and ethical conduct
- Ability to work under pressure of daily deadlines
- Established 3+ years experience in a news organization
- Has well-reading habits across cognates (not necessarily just news)
- Critical thinking skills, initiative and creativity
- Available to work in the evening
- Likes to work as a team player with different people in a fast-paced working environment

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

- College graduate preferably Journalism, Mass Communication or other related courses
- High caliber English proficiency
- Has attention to details and has an excellent capacity in meeting deadlines
- Minimum of 2 years experience in a news organization
- Has well-reading habits across cognates (not necessarily just news)
- Likes to work as a team player with different people in a fast-paced working environment
- Creative and can suggest story ideas & participate in editorial brainstorming

Interested applicants may send their resumes to: cdnnhr@mozcomhillsfarm.ph

For jobseekers, log on to: www.jobmarketonline.com

looking for a job?
email resume to
workingpeople@inquirer.com.ph
or
log on to jobmarketonline.com.ph

JOBMARKET sms

To receive job alerts on your mobile phones, simply text

JOBS JM <category> <location> <gender> M/F

and send it to 4467

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Accounting	IT
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BPO	Manufacturing
Construction	Marketing
Education	Maritime
Engineering	Sales
Finance	Sciences
Healthcare	Services
Hotel/ Restaurant	Others

To get the list of keywords and more options on how to receive Job Alerts, text JM MENU and send to 4467 for free.

Job Market is published every Sunday with the Philippine Daily Inquirer. Success is online by visiting www.jobmarketonline.com.

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Holy Spirit Memorial Park

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D.O.M.
Antonio Ocampo Floirendo, Sr.

Died in the peace of the Lord on June 29, 2012
at the age of 96.

His bereaved wife **Nenita del Rosario**;
Children **Linda F. Lagdameo**, **Antonio, Jr.**,
Maria Cristina F. Brias, **Ma. Theresa**, **Ricardo** and **Vicente**,
spouses, grandchildren, great-grandchildren & other relatives
request your prayers for the eternal repose of his soul.

His body lies in state at his residence, **88 Cambridge Circle, North Forbes Park, Makati City**, until Monday, July 2, 2012, at which time he will be flown to Davao.

Interment to be announced later.

*In lieu of flowers a donation to the **AOF Foundation** for its projects will be appreciated.*

DEATH NOTICE

RODOLFO BAYSA RIGO
of Bagan, Isabela
died at the age of 78
last June 29, 2012.
His body lies in state at the family residence in 89 Notre Dame St., Cubao, Quezon City.
Interment to be announced later.

Carlos G. Atendido

Peacefully joined our Creator on June 30, 2012

His wife Marilelle; children Carlo, Johann, Angela; daughter-in-law Pia request the prayers readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Chapel 1 of the Mortuary and Crematory of The Heritage Park, Barangay Basak, Talisay City.

Interment will be on Wednesday, July 4, 2012 at 3:00 PM at The Heritage Park, Talisay City.

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free.
I am following the path God has laid for me.

In loving memory of

Gregorio "Roy" Velasquez, Jr.

Cabanatuan City and San Jose, California, USA
March 30, 1943 – January 03, 2012

Roy has arrived from California. His cremated remains will be at the Immaculate Conception Cathedral Grottos, Lamsara St., Cubao, Q.C. on July 7, 2012. Fr. will be held at 3:00 pm Mass.

CLASSIFIED

For what
who held your hand,
Who cried with you
or sulked you.
For those who gave
their prayers...

Send your message of thanks.

Cubao, Inquirer Classifieds
Head Office: 897-0123 (Telefax); 896-6214;
897-1400 loc. 514, 516, 896-6220;
Cubao: 911-1420; 421-1041
Makati: 892-2278; 811-4012; 811-4161
Manila: 521-1033 loc. 115 or 116; 528-0111
Marawi: 401-1042; 269-8018; 495-1941 (Telefax)

INQUIRER

Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.

Matthew 10:39

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

Always caring...
INQUIRER OBITUARIES

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS:

- Copy of Death Certificate;
- Any identification document (I.D.)

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT - MESSAGE OF THANKS - DEATH ANNIVERSARY - REQUIEMS - FREE QUIT DESIGN

SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM
1 F. Lacsa Avenue, Mandy, Quezon City 1550

INVITATION TO BID
"As Is, Where Is" Basis

PUBLIC BIDDING FOR THE SALE AND DISPOSAL OF ONE (1) LOT VARIOUS UNSERVICEABLE AIR CONDITIONING UNITS, PARTS & ACCESSORIES, MACHINE (1 LOT VARIOUS UNSERVICEABLE FURNITURES & EQUIPMENT, COMPUTERS & ACCESSORIES/SCRAP MATERIALS

The SSS Bid, Award and Procurement Committee invites bidders to the public bidding of the following:

A. Subject:

Item	Particulars	Minimum Bid Price
1	One (1) Lot Various Unserviceable Air Conditioning Units, Parts & Accessories	P18,000.00
2	One (1) Lot Various Unserviceable Furniture & Equipment, Computers & Accessories / Scrap Materials	P28,800.00
Total Minimum Bid Price		P46,800.00

B. Condition: "As is, Where is" Basis

C. Location:

- SSS Valenzuela Sales Office, Mc Arthur Highway, Marulas, Valenzuela City (Tel. No. No. (632) 352-2121 to 29 Fax No. (632) 352-2122) - Unit Inventory Custodian Ms. Rosalinda Bautista
- SSS Muntinlupa Branch, Asia Centre Building, 113 Aurora Street, Muntinlupa City (Tel. No. (632) 556-2121 to 30 Fax No. (632) 556-2122) - Unit Inventory Custodian Ms. Ma. Cristina Tuazon-Gonzales and Ms. Lea Clare Tuazon-Gonzales (Tel. No. (632) 556-2121 to 30 Fax No. (632) 556-2122) - Unit Inventory Custodian Mr. Ernesto Lyn Sabanal

D. Schedule of Activities:

Activities	Date	Time
Issuance of Bid Documents	July 02 to 12, 2012	8:00 AM – 4:30 PM
Site Inspection	July 02 to 12, 2012	8:00 AM – 4:30 PM
Pre-Bid Conference	July 06, 2012	2:00 PM
Submission of Bid Documents	July 12, 2012	8:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Opening of Bids	July 12, 2012	2:00 PM

E. Invitation To Bid:

The Committee will accommodate accredited prospective bidders and interested parties by the Southern Mindanao Inspection Committee Secretariat, 2nd Floor, SSS Davao Branch, LP Leviste Avenue, Agdao, Davao City and Mindanao Avenue, Davao City (082) 221-0801 local 201 to 205 or by e-mail to Ms. Rosalinda Bautista at rbautista1@sss.gov.ph.

The SSS reserves the right to reject any or all bids without offending any bidder, to waive any formality or technicality, and to award to any bidder where it deems it expedient and most advantageous to the SSS.

The SSS neither assumes any obligation to any bid whatsoever that may be incurred by the bidders in the preparation of their respective bids nor does the SSS guarantee that an award will be made.

Date: June 22, 2012

(Sgd.) FREALYN C. DE LEON
Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee
Southern Mindanao Division

(PSI - July 1, 2012)

Republic of the Philippines
COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
U.P. Complex, Commonwealth Avenue
Diliman, Quezon City
Tel. Nos. 925-3660 / 928-4795

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID
PROCUREMENT OF SERVICE VEHICLES

1. The Commission on Human Rights (CHR) through the General Appropriations Act (GAA) and Agencia Espanola de Cooperacion Internacional para Desarrollo (AECID) fund intends to apply the total amount of EIGHT MILLION PESOS, (P 8M), broken down as follows:

LOT No.	QUANTITY	ITEM DESCRIPTION	ABC
1	5	Pick Up, 4 x 4 4 Cylinder Diesel Engine 4-5 speed Manual Transmission	P8,000,000.00

Being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to payments under the contract for the Procurement of Service Vehicles. Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at the Bid Opening.

2. Interested Bidders may obtain a complete set of Bidding Documents starting July 5, 2012 upon payment of a non-refundable fee in the amount of Five Thousand (P5,000.00) Pesos to the Finance and Management Office (FMO) CHR Office, U.P. Complex, Commonwealth Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City.

3. The Commission on Human Rights will hold a Pre-Bid Conference open to all interested parties on July 12, 2012, 10:00 a.m. at 3rd Floor, CHR Multipurpose Hall.

4. Deadline for the submission of bids shall be on July 26, 2012, 10:00 a.m. at the Conference Room, 2nd Floor, CHR Office, U.P. Complex, Diliman, Quezon City. Immediately after the deadline, Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidder's representatives who choose to attend.

5. The Bids and Awards Committee of the Commission on Human Rights reserves the right to reject any bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all bids at any time prior to contract award without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidders.

(Sgd.) ATTY. JACQUELINE B. VELORIA-MILLA
Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee
COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
SAAC Bldg., U.P. Complex, Diliman, Quezon City

(PSI - July 01, 2012)

UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES LOS BAÑOS
College, Laguna 4031

BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE (BAC)
(For supplies, materials, equipment, and services)

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB) invites interested parties to apply for eligibility and to submit bids for the following items:

Reference No.	Description	End User	Approved Budget (PhP)	Bidding Fee (PhP)
B. OPC-B-2-12-12	REHABILITATION OF LABORATORY AND SCIENTIFIC EQUIPMENT	MOTECH	4,000,000.00	1,000.00
B. OPC-B-2-12-12	SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF LABORATORY AND SCIENTIFIC EQUIPMENT	MOTECH	14,971,000.00	5,000.00

Interested parties may secure the bidding documents from the Bids and Awards Committee Secretariat (BAC Sec) Office at GP/NC, Ramiscal (Knoll) UP Los Baños. The bid forms may also be downloaded either from UP's website (http://oprmis.upb.edu.ph/bac/) or PhilGEPS (https://www.philgeps.gov/GEPS). Bidding fee shall be required from the bidders payable upon securing of the bid documents from the BAC Sec Office or upon submission of eligibility requirements or on the day of submission/opening of bids.

The estimated of bidding activities is as follows:

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES	A. OPC-B-2-12-12	B. OPC-B-2-12-12	PLACE
1. Issuance of Bid Documents	starts June 28, 2012 (Fri) 8:00 am to 4:30 pm	starts June 28, 2012 (Fri) 8:00 am to 4:30 pm	BAC Secretariat Office (GP/NC), Ramiscal, Knoll UPLB
2. Submission of Eligibility Requirements	On or before July 16, 2012	On or before July 16, 2012	
3. Pre-Bid Conference	July 4, 2012 / PM(2:00)	July 9, 2012 / AM(10:00)	
4. Submission / Opening of Bids	July 16, 2012 1:00 - 2:00 pm	July 16, 2012 10:00 - 11:00 am	

The UPLB reserves the right to reject any or all bids, declare a failure of bidding, without offering any reason, waive any defect therein and make an award to the bidder whose proposal is most advantageous to the University. The University likewise assumes no obligation for whatever losses that may be incurred by the bidders in the preparation of the bids nor does it guarantee that the award shall be made.

Inquiries may be forwarded to Ms. Cristina Lu Bucaldo, Chair, BAC Secretariat at telephone nos. (049) 536-2401/536-2431 or 500-2301/2302.

(Sgd.)
MELFIN C. BUENAVENTURA
Chairperson, BAC

(PSI - July 1, 2012)

MAKATI SPORTS CLUB, INC.

NOTICE OF AUCTION SALE

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of Makati Sports Club, Inc. has approved the sale by auction of the shares of the following individuals/corporate shareholders:

SHAREHOLDER'S NAME	ADDRESS	SC NO.
1. Rosalio S. Cruz (CRUZ)	29 Midway Drive, Bluebridge Subd., Quezon City	A-014
2. Wilfredo B. Ty (TY)	76 Gen. Luna, New Manila, Q.C.	A-015
3. Filipinas Pipes, Pilas, Inc. (FPPI)	Penthouse, ITC, Bonifacio Square, 363 Valero Street, Salcedo Village, Makati City	A-017
4. Jose P. Rivas (RIVAS)	Mandaluyong Public Corp., Rm. 16 NCR Avenue, Barangka, Industrial Park, Mandaluyong	A-020
5. Jardine Landscape, Inc. (JARDINE)	39 United Street, Mandaluyong City 1550	A-022
6. Jose P. Rivas (RIVAS)	813-15 Makati Commercial Bldg., Ayala Avenue, Legaspi Village, Makati City	A-025
7. Maria Paz D. Cruz (CRUZ)	Rebecca Restaurant Corp., Unit 2, GM Apartments, 1114 Acacia Street, Dasmariñas Village, Makati City	A-027
8. First Pacific Capital Corp. (1208)	Metro Capital Investment & Trust Co., Inc. 3rd Flr., L.V. Locsin Bldg., Ayala Corner Rada Avenue, Makati City	A-030
9. Carlos M. Villegas (CM VILLEGAS)	Rm. 304, CM Arranz Bldg., 39 Polaris Street, San Antonio Village, Makati City	A-034
10. Josefina T. Lichauco (LICHAUCO)	249 Amapola Street, Park Village, Makati City	A-035
11. Leonardo L. Hernandez (LHERNANDEZ)	49 Florida Street, San Lorenzo Village, Makati City	A-036
12. Fernando R. Joaquin (FRJ)	4/F Metro Law Offices, 2316 Don Chino Roces Ave. Extension, Makati City	A-038

The auction sale will be held on 27 July 2012 at 10:30 A.M. at the Club's Clarendon Room.

This announcement also serves as a notice and demand to the members/stockholders concerned that the auction shall proceed on the auction date if they pay the member accounts and dues in any office hours before the auction sale.

(Sgd.) JESUS G. LUZ Jr. ARANAS
Corporate Secretary

(PSI - July 1, 2012)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

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COMMERCIAL

COMMERCIAL / RESIDENTIAL

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APARTMENT

CONDO/TOWNHOUSE

LOT

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

HOUSE

APARTMENT

BUSINESS RENTALS

HOUSE & BOARD

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

CARS

2010 BMW 320i
Black GT trim
w/orig 320 i
trackingphone
P6.9m
09173233618

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CAR LOAN

CAR LOAN

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

WANTED TO BUY

ROLEX
LOUIS VUITTON

PETS

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT
Regional Office No. NIA
[illegible]

NOTICE OF FILING OF APPLICATION FOR ALIEN EMPLOYMENT PERMIT (AEP)

Notice is hereby given that the following companies/establishment have filed with this Regional Office applications for Alien Employment Permits:

	Name and Address of Company/Employer	Name and Citizenship of Foreign National	Position and Nature/Description of Functions
1.	KHING HONG PLASTICS CO., INC. [illegible]	Mr. Wee Wen Lee (Taiwanese)	Sales Manager
2.	FUJITSU DEI-TECH CORPORATION OF THE PHILIPPINES [illegible]	Mr. Kazunori Sakaki (Japanese)	Senior Manager of Production Engineering Department
3.	JOANNE INT'L, INC. [illegible]	Mr. Wanmeung Ho (Korean)	Quality Control Manager
4.	MIRICK TECHNOLOGY PHILIPPINES, INC. [illegible]	Ms. Sherri Paul Bogue (American)	Fly Plant Manager, Sub Contractor
5.	[illegible]	Mr. Yutaka [illegible] (Japanese)	President
6.	YOUNG JOHN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, INC. [illegible]	Mr. Wonkyun Cho (Wife of Kim) (Korean)	General Manager
7.	[illegible]	Mr. Yoshihiro Nohara (Japanese)	Chief Finance Officer
8.	[illegible]	Mr. Masahiro Takeda (Japanese)	Facilities Engineer
9.	[illegible]	Mr. Shigefumi Sakai (Japanese)	Manufacturing Engineer
10.	[illegible]	Mr. Koichiro Mori (Japanese)	Process Engineer
11.	[illegible]	Mr. Akira Hanada (Japanese)	Process Engineer
12.	[illegible]	Mr. Noriyuki Yokuwa (Japanese)	Facility Engineer
13.	[illegible]	Mr. Takeshi Kawasaki (Japanese)	Process Engineer
14.	[illegible]	Mr. Yoshiyuki Shibata (Japanese)	Facility Engineer
15.	[illegible]	Mr. Manabu Hasui (Japanese)	Manufacturing Engineer
16.	[illegible]	Mr. Fusahiko Kawamura (Japanese)	Manufacturing Engineer
17.	[illegible]	Mr. Akio Togashi (Japanese)	Manufacturing Engineer
18.	[illegible]	Mr. Hiroshi Ogawa (Japanese)	Process Engineer
19.	[illegible]	Mr. Hirotsu Hasabe (Japanese)	CAD/gict Engineer
20.	[illegible]	Mr. Yoshihiro Ikuchi (Japanese)	Manufacturing Engineer
21.	HOTEL DE GLORIA COMPLEX, INC. [illegible]	Mr. Ki Hwan (Korean)	General Manager
22.	[illegible]	Mr. Byungkun Kang (Korean)	Assembly Manager

If you have any information/objection to the above-mentioned applications, please communicate with the Regional Director.

ALEX V. AVILA, CESO III
DOLE Regional Director

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DEPARTMENT OF TRADE & INDUSTRY

BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

Request for Expression of Interest for Hiring of Survey Firm for the Nationwide Consumer Awareness Survey 2012 - Rebidding

The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), invites bidders to apply for eligibility and short list for the hereunder project:

Name of the Project	National Survey Firm for the Nationwide Consumer Awareness Survey 2012 - Rebidding
Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC)	Php1,000,000.00
Delivery/ Completion Period	within 3 months after receipt of Notice to Proceed

The BAC shall draw up the short list of consultants from those who have submitted eligibility documents/expression of interest and have been determined as eligible in accordance with the provisions of Republic Act 9184 (RA 9184), otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act" and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR). The short list shall consist of the not more than 12 prospective consultants who will be entitled to submit bids. The criteria and rating system for short listing are:

Criteria	Percentage
Company experience	10%
Qualification of Key Organic Personnel	10%
Associative Capacity	20%

The Passing rate for shortlisting shall be 75% with at least minimum of 50% for each criterion.

Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using a non-discretionary "pass/fail" criterion as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act 9184 (RA 9184), otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act".

The Procuring Entity shall evaluate bids using the Quality-Cost Based Evaluation (QCBE) procedure. The Technical Bid Proposal shall have a corresponding rate of seventy percent (70%) while the Financial Bid Proposal shall have a corresponding rate of thirty percent (30%).

The complete schedule of activities is listed, as follows:

Activities	Schedule & Venue
1. Deadline for the submission and Opening of Eligibility Documents	10 July 2012, 11:00 AM Deadline for Submission and Opening of the Eligibility Documents Venue: BAC Conference Room 6/F, Trade and Industry Building, 361 San Jose Street, Makati City
2. Issuance of bid documents to shortlisted consultants	11- 17 July 2012 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM at the Office of the BAC Secretariat, Ground Floor, Trade and Industry Building, 361 San Jose Street, Makati City
3. Pre - bid Conference	16 July 2012, 1:30 PM at the same venue as Activity No. 1
4. Deadline for the submission of Technical and Financial Bids	31 August 2012, 10:00 AM Deadline for Submission of the same venue as Activity No. 1

Bidding is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, partnerships, or organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to RA 5183 and subject to Commonwealth Act 138.

The complete set of Request for Expression of Interest, Eligibility Documents and Eligibility Data Sheet can be downloaded free of charge from the website of the Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System (PhilGEPS) and the website of the Procuring Entity.

A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased only by the shortlisted consultants from the address stated above and payment of a non-refundable fee in the amount of Seven Thousand Pesos (Php 5,000.00).

The DTI reserves no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of the bid.

The DTI reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

For further information, please refer to:

Rose P. Balandrekas
Bids and Awards Committee Secretariat
Department of Trade and Industry
3/F Trade and Industry Building
361 San Jose Street, Makati City
Telephone No. (632) 751-3300 / Fax No. (632) 890-3818
E-mail Address: rosebalandrekas@dti.gov.ph

Engr. LEONARDA C. MAGLAYA
Undersecretary
Chairperson, DTI Bids and Awards Committee

DTI - July 01, 2012

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE & INDUSTRY

BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

Request for Expression of Interest for Hiring of Survey Firm for the Stakeholder Engagement Survey

The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), invites bidders to apply for eligibility and short list for the hereunder project:

Name of the Project	Hiring of Survey Firm for the Stakeholder Engagement Survey
Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC)	Php2,000,000.00
Delivery/ Completion Period	within 3 months after receipt of Notice to Proceed

The BAC shall draw up the short list of consultants from those who have submitted eligibility documents/expression of interest and have been determined as eligible in accordance with the provisions of Republic Act 9184 (RA 9184), otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act" and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR). The short list shall consist of the not more than 12 prospective consultants who will be entitled to submit bids. The criteria and rating system for short listing are:

Criteria	Percentage
Company experience	10%
Qualification of Key Organic Personnel	10%
Associative Capacity	20%

The Passing rate for shortlisting shall be 75% with at least minimum of 50% for each criterion.

Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using a non-discretionary "pass/fail" criterion as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act 9184 (RA 9184), otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act".

The Procuring Entity shall evaluate bids using the Quality-Cost Based Evaluation (QCBE) procedure. The Technical Bid Proposal shall have a corresponding rate of seventy percent (70%) while the Financial Bid Proposal shall have a corresponding rate of thirty percent (30%).

The complete schedule of activities is listed, as follows:

Activities	Schedule & Venue
1. Deadline for the submission and Opening of Eligibility Documents	10 July 2012, 11:00 AM Deadline for Submission and Opening of the same Conference Room 6/F, Trade and Industry Building 361 San Jose Street, Makati City
2. Issuance of bid documents to shortlisted consultants	11- 17 July 2012 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM at the Office of the BAC Secretariat, Ground Floor, Trade and Industry Building, 361 San Jose Street, Makati City
3. Pre - bid Conference	16 July 2012, 1:30 PM at the same venue as Activity No. 1
4. Deadline for the submission of Technical and Financial Bids	10 August 2012, 10:00 AM Deadline for Submission of the same venue as Activity No. 1

Bidding is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, partnerships, or organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to RA 5183 and subject to Commonwealth Act 138.

The complete set of Request for Expression of Interest, Eligibility Documents and Eligibility Data Sheet can be downloaded free of charge from the website of the Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System (PhilGEPS) and the website of the Procuring Entity.

A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased only by the shortlisted consultants from the address stated above and payment of a non-refundable fee in the amount of Seven Thousand Pesos (Php 5,000.00).

The DTI reserves no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of the bid.

The DTI reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

For further information, please refer to:

Rose P. Balandrekas
Bids and Awards Committee Secretariat
Department of Trade and Industry
3/F Trade and Industry Building
361 San Jose Street, Makati City
Telephone No. (632) 751-3300 / Fax No. (632) 890-3818
E-mail Address: rosebalandrekas@dti.gov.ph

Engr. LEONARDA C. MAGLAYA
Undersecretary
Chairperson, DTI Bids and Awards Committee

DTI - July 01, 2012

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

JHMC

JOINT HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT CORPORATION (JHMC), through its approved 2012 JHMC Annual Procurement Program, invites eligible bidders to join the Philippine Bidding for the (6) Projects listed below. Bidders shall be prequalified to participate in the bidding for the contract/s they intend to bid and shall submit bids for all items/lots/packages of the contract/s, unless otherwise indicated in the Bid Data Sheet.

Activity Number	Lot#	Item Description	Delivery / Completion Period	Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC)
1	1	Lobby Area General Renovation Works	45	Php[illegible]
	2	Parking Area Improvement Works	45	Php[illegible]

1. Bidding is open to all duly licensed Filipino and foreign contractors/suppliers as evidenced by valid and current Mayor's/Business Permit issued by the city or municipality where principal place of business is located.
2. Bidders should have completed, within the period from the last day of submission and receipt of bids, a contract similar to the Project. The description of an eligible bidder is contained in the Bidding Documents, particularly, in Section II. Instructions to Bidders.
3. Bidding shall be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using a non-discretionary "pass/fail" criterion as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act 9184, otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act". Bidding is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, partnerships, or organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens or entities.
4. Interested bidders may obtain further information from JHMC, and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. (Mon-Fri) and from 8:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. (Sat) starting June 29, 2012 (Fri) at the JHMC Bidding Secretariat Office, 2nd Floor, Administration Building, Quezon Memorial Circle, Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City. A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested bidders from June 29, 2012 (Fri) to July 13, 2012 (Fri) at the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee in the amount of Five Thousand Pesos (Php 5,000.00). It may also be downloaded free of charge from the website of the Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System (PhilGEPS) and the website of the Procuring Entity, provided that bidders shall pay the non-refundable fee for the Bidding Documents not later than the submission of their bids.
5. JHMC reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, to annul the bidding process, and to declare a failure of bidding at any time prior to the contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.
6. Bid prices shall be valid for one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the date of the opening of bids.
7. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before June 29, 2012 (Fri) at 9:00 A.M. Bidding documents will be opened immediately thereafter. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend the activity.
8. Bid opening procedure will be strictly observed as stipulated in the Bidding Documents. Late bids shall not be accepted.
9. Bids must be submitted on the address below on or before June 29, 2012 (Fri) at 9:00 A.M. Bidding documents will be opened immediately thereafter. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend the activity.
10. Bid opening procedure will be strictly observed as stipulated in the Bidding Documents. Late bids shall not be accepted.
11. JHMC reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, to annul the bidding process, and to declare a failure of bidding at any time prior to the contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.
12. For further information, please refer to:

Dr. Evangelina C. Domingo
Procurement Management Officer II, Secretariat
Joint Hospital Management Corporation
Quezon City, Philippines
Telefax: (02) 924-2646
e-Mail: jhmc@yahoo.com
Website: www.jhmc.gov.ph

Engr. [illegible]
Bids Chairperson

JHMC - June 29, 2012

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Agusan del Norte Communities Project 3 (AMCP-3)
ADB Loan No. 2160-PHI(SF) Loan No. 1220P

INVITATION TO BID

Consulting and Rehabilitation of 5.3 KM Iron Bolong-Magkaon-Dinkongan FMR
Location: Barangay Iron Bolong, Municipality of Cabadbaran, Province of Agusan del Norte

[illegible]

Item No.	Description of Works	Quantity	Unit
100 (1)	Clearing and Grubbing	5,300.00	sta
101 (1)	Removal of Structures and Obstructions	1.00	sum
102 (1)	Excavation	1,000.00	cu.m
103 (1)	Embankment	1,000.00	cu.m
104 (1)	Shaping of Roadway	5,300.00	sta
200	Subbase, Base and Surface Courses		
201 (1)	Subbase Course	10,600.00	cu.m
201 (2)	Base Course	10,600.00	cu.m
202	Asphalt Pavement		
202 (1)	Asphalt Concrete Pavement (Surface) (10.0)	5,300.00	sq.m
202 (2)	Asphalt Concrete Pavement (Binder) (10.0)	5,300.00	sq.m
300 (1)	Reinforced Concrete Pipe Culvert (0.60 dia.)	12.00	m
300 (2)	Reinforced Concrete Pipe Culvert (0.80 dia.)	12.00	m
300 (3)	Reinforced Concrete Pipe Culvert (1.00 dia.)	12.00	m
300 (4)	Reinforced Concrete Pipe Culvert (1.20 dia.)	12.00	m
300 (5)	Reinforced Concrete Pipe Culvert (1.50 dia.)	12.00	m
300 (6)	Reinforced Concrete Pipe Culvert (1.80 dia.)	12.00	m
300 (7)	Reinforced Concrete Pipe Culvert (2.00 dia.)	12.00	m
300 (8)	Reinforced Concrete Pipe Culvert (2.40 dia.)	12.00	m
300 (9)	Reinforced Concrete Pipe Culvert (3.00 dia.)	12.00	m
300 (10)	Reinforced Concrete Pipe Culvert (3.60 dia.)	12.00	m
300

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Office of the Secretary
Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City

[illegible]

SUBJECT: National Tree Farm Aggregating Center (TAC) Management Policy

Pursuant to Section 7 (c), Section 10 (c), (e), (n) and (o) of the Philippine Fiberdevelopment Code of 1998 (Republic Act 8048) and in line with the DA's thrust to promote the development of investments in the countryside, farming, the following effective management and conservation measures and guidelines are hereby promulgated to expeditiously secure the raising, installation of powerful activities and impact assessment of the National Tree Farm Aggregating Centers (NTACs).

SECTION 1. Objectives. - This management policy and set of guidelines are to regulate the raising/harvest and number of trees associated with forest farming activities/projects in the various locations and establishments of timber management to be undertaken by the private sector, to attain the following objectives:

a) NTACs are forest & (Mining) registered by Philippine registered private entities and by and Mining private investors including any of the support research services to be set in the Philippines (ES);

b) NTACs, particularly its (Mining) registered by Philippine Registered private entities and by any and Mining private investors including any of the support research services to be set in the Philippines (ES), made, or caused to allowed to operate in the high forest areas;

c) NTACs are owned & (Mining) registered in the Philippine (ES) for the purposes of forest woodlots farming;

SECTION 2. Definition of Terms. - As used in these guidelines, the following terms and phrases shall mean:

a) NTAC - refers to the Economic of Harvests and Assets Resources;

b) HARVESTED WOODS - refers to the forest products of the private owned lands and with allowed the private owned land that are owned by the national effort. The owner may or may not have the land or not and designate as per the law;

c) CHAINSAW MILL - means any machine used for the storage space for the first product by the chainsaw owners. These owners need not to be registered officially in the Philippines, and is operating on the high seas, must be in the (Mining) NTACs as of registered vessels;

d) DOT - refers to the Graduate Economic Zones;

e) PWD - refers to the Persons Disabilities ("persons disabilities" or "person is special" - PWDs are men and women, including disability employed or training primarily to rehabilitate persons with disabilities, most notably those who have visual needs. Either simply needs of functions or need assistance in order to perform activities in order to achieve training or employment;

f) Fisheries Director - an administrative authorized by the (NTAC) Director and/or (NTAC) Chief to conduct plans and other scientific and qualitative information related to fishing to regulate the fisheries and other relevant NTAC activities and other administrative matters applicable to the Philippines;

g) Fisheries Representative - a person whose designation and (3) bonds, impact commitment rates obtained from the Philippines and other relevant NTAC activities;

h) Juvenile Area - also referred to as nursery areas or habitat, an individual or more species whose spawning have not yet fully developed for reproductive purposes;

i) PCG - Philippine Coast Guard;

j) SUPPORT PROGRAM - these include animal feeds, light boats, access to natural boats and seedling boats from research to the operation of boats and to ensure they are in such boats;

k) Tender - are negotiated package fishes belonging to the family of Scombridae characterized by their more elongated, spindle-shaped bodies and are capable of swimming at relatively high speeds. Members of this family include mackerel, the tunas and some fish. Within this family, the tunas stand out in having to the three major commercially caught scombrid species, namely: yellowfin (Thunnus albacares), bigeye (Thunnus obesus) and skipjack (Katsuwonus pelamis);

l) Tuna Purse Seine - a classification of fishing gear which commonly consist of nylon fish attracted to capture light boat or from their school or drifting boat using a encompass net with bottom and top purse lines that can be closed like a drawstring purse. Purse seine nets are designed to catch pelagic fish that form schools usually close to the surface. Purse seine nets are usually used to encircle schools of fish. The net is closed at the bottom by means of a purse line through a ring attached at the bottom of each panel. Modern purse seines are usually made with nylon synthetic fibers and are usually fished near the surface;

m) Shipper - means any person or entity that has entered into a transportation contract with a carrier or on whose behalf such a contract is concluded;

n) SPMSs - Regional Fisheries Management Organization;

o) UNCLOS - refers to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;

p) WCPFC - refers to the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission, or regional fisheries management body which the Philippines is an active member.

Section 3. Limits on the Number of NTACs.

a) Forest areas and any non-fishery vessels of Philippine registry are licensed or left in the Philippine EEZ, on the high seas, or in the waters under the jurisdiction of other States, only if they have been duly authorized to conduct fishing operations under terms and conditions consistent with the provisions of this Act and with those of any applicable international agreement to which the Philippines is a party. Any vessel without such authorization while on the high seas shall be presumed to be engaged in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing in the absence of evidence to the contrary;

b) Philippine fishing vessels entitled to fly the flag of the Philippines shall display on the vessel's conspicuous marks as identified by Section 4 of this NTAC;

c) Fishing fishing vessels of the Philippines shall not be allowed to transship on the high seas except in accordance with the conditions established by the Philippines and in accordance with the relevant conservation and management measures and other relevant provisions applicable to the Philippines;

Section 4. Application process for the Assignment of NTACs

a) Existing and/or new operators in the fishery company must have activity must have applications. Should there be conflicts on the coordination of existing NTACs, NTACs shall have conflicts and coordinate with the stakeholders to settle and dispose of the assigned area;

b) The same fishing concessionaire shall submit the following documents upon notice and information on NTACs of their operation in staying fishing. The information to be submitted shall include the following:

i. Name of the applicant and appropriate licenses of the fund fishing company and their respective vessel owners;

ii. Proposed NTAC location in terms of latitude and longitude, or the nearest island;

iii. Area of (hectares);

iv. Type or classification of NTAC;

c) The NTAC shall process the application, verify all the necessary documents, and check the location applied for including compliance with the operational requirements in accordance thereto in implementation;

d) The NTAC shall evaluate compliance of all the requirements, shall approve the application and issue the corresponding permit with validity of three (3) years and existing with the term of fishing vessel and gear license. The approved application shall indicate the assigned or licensed NTAC number, which shall be painted on both sides of the bow of the vessel. The NTAC shall not be the same number when transferred to another number or other location;

e) An NTAC assigned to one national cannot be, whether by sale or replacement NTAC shall be allowed to be transferred to another Philippine registered fishing vessel without authorization of the Philippines. The NTAC Agreement and amendment further should be conducted, provided the NTAC Agreement and amendment are duly submitted and approved by the Philippines;

Section 5. Design, Operation and Maintenance of NTACs. - The following shall be the minimum design standard for NTACs:

a) NTACs shall be constructed such that there are no bolts or material that can cause injury/wound. The surface shall be smooth with slight rounded edges;

b) The assigned number shall be painted in white color conspicuously large enough to be visible from a distance of 100 meters on the bow to allow identification of the registry;

c) The NTAC design shall include an appropriate number of suitable weights and buoys sufficient in order to maintain their position in the water column and to ensure the floats remain submerged under strong sea;

d) The NTAC design shall include an appropriate number of suitable weights and buoys sufficient in order to maintain their position in the water column and to ensure the floats remain submerged under strong sea. The NTAC design shall conform to accordance with these to;

e) The operation and maintenance of NTACs shall be the responsibility of the concession implementing the NTAC.

Section 7. "No NTAC" Areas and Closed Areas

a) Activities by commercial non-fishing vessels in designated within municipal waters unless in appropriate conditions as imposed by the local government unit concerned (municipal or city) or authorized under section 149 (b) (1) to (3) of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, and pursuant to the provisions of Section 16, paragraph (b) of Republic Act No. 8550, as amended by Republic Act No. 10654, otherwise known as the Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998, as amended, and other applicable laws, rules and regulations: Provided, That the LGU shall set a limit of the area of the municipal waters for commercial fishing vessels and;

b) NTACs shall be set up at navigational facilities with known high volume (Lane traffic. The NTAC shall be located at least 2,000 meters from the shoreline of major ports. The NTAC shall be located at least 2,000 meters from the shoreline of major ports. The NTAC shall be located at least 2,000 meters from the shoreline of major ports

PRIVATIZATION AND MANAGEMENT OFFICE

INVITATION TO BID
for the
FOOD TERMINAL INC. (FTI) PROPERTY

The Privatization and Management Office ("PMO") is offering for sale through public bidding, on an "as-is-where-is" basis and not unlike an actual commercial / industrial property with enough open space of 19 hectares, more or less, including the buildings and improvements erected thereon, thereunder, the "Property", which are portions of the property covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. 21465, located within the FTI Complex, Taguig City.

The Property is being offered at a **Base Price** of **₱[illegible]** which may be paid in cash or in installments, provided that: (a) upfront payment in an amount **₱[illegible]** (10% of the Bid Price) is made on Bidding Date; (b) full payment is made on or before December 20, 2012; and (c) with **[illegible]** Interest Rate of **[illegible]** per annum. The Base Price is exclusive of taxes. All taxes, fees, and incidental costs on or relative to the sale of the Property, except income tax, shall be borne by the Buyer.

The Bidding Package, which includes the authenticated Asset Specific Bidding Rules ("ASBR"), the draft Specific Contract and Purchase Agreement, shall be issued during office hours (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) from July 4, 2012 to July 13, 2012 at the PMO Office. As a prerequisite to the issuance of the Bidding Package, interested parties shall submit a Letter of Interest and execute a Confidentiality Agreement, both in the form provided by PMO, and pay a non-refundable Participation Fee of **₱[illegible]**. The Letter of Interest, Confidentiality Agreement and Participation Fee must be received by PMO on or before 5:00 p.m., on July 10, 2012, to enable the interested parties sufficient time to prepare their bidding proposal.

Interested parties who have been issued the Bidding Package are entitled to due diligence audit of the Property from July 5, 2012 to August 3, 2012, upon payment of the due diligence fee in the amount of **₱[illegible]** at the FTI Complex, Taguig City. The data room and the due diligence procedures are included in the Bidding Package.

A pre-bid conference shall be held at **[illegible]** on July 06, 2012 at the FTI Complex, Taguig City, which shall be open only to interested parties who have been issued the Bidding Package.

Submission and opening of the bids shall be held on **August 06, [illegible]** at 10:00a.m., at the PMO 8th Floor Conference Room, DAR Central Office, Legaspi Village, Makati City.

Interested parties submitting a bid must comply with the (1) legal requirements and (2) financial capability requirements provided in the ASBR.

A two-envelope bidding system shall be adopted. Bidders shall be required to submit a Bid Deposit equivalent to **[illegible]** of the Bid Price, in the form of cash, manager's check, or irrevocable and unconditional letter of credit issued by a Qualified Bank and payable to the "Privatization and Management Office". The Bid Deposit shall guarantee the bidder's compliance with the ASBR and the Bidding Package.

The highest acceptable financial bid, whether in cash or installment, shall be determined on the basis of the computed NPV for bidders who match the highest bid Price/ Value, PMO using a discount rate of not low and [illegible] per annum. Bids below the Base Price will be automatically disqualified. Likewise, Bids with an NPV below the Minimum Bid Financial Value shall likewise be automatically disqualified. The NPV formula is stated in the concept due s/s included in the Bidding Package.

The opening and tabulation of bids shall only be for the purpose of determining the highest acceptable financial bid, which bid shall be subject to the approval of the Privatization Council (PC) or any award.

Interested parties may contact:

THE CHAIRPERSON
Bids and Awards Committee
7th Flr. FTI Property Privatization
Food Terminal Inc. Management Office
DAR Central Office, Legaspi Village, Makati City
Telephone Nos.: [illegible]
Fax No.: [illegible]

PMO reserves the right to reject one or all bids, or to waive any defect or required formality therein, and to postpone the bid opening if such be advantageous to the National Government. PMO may reject bid/s from parties or Proponents/ prospective bidders found to be engaged in [illegible] or under any Natural Disaster Bidding.

PMO does not assume any obligation to compensate any or all parties for any expenses or any financial loss, injury or cost of their participation in the bidding process for the Property, nor does it guarantee that an award will be made. The Bids and Awards Committee reserves the right to modify/ supplement, or change the ASBR, or any documents included in the Bidding Package, and any other aspect of the bidding process at any time, including the schedule and venue provided herein, for any reason whatsoever and without giving prior notice. Bidders shall be notified subsequently of such modifications, supplements, or changes.

(PMO – [illegible], 2012)

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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

FLORENCIO "FLONG" N. EMBALSADO

is no longer connected to Isearch International Co. and has an existing warrant of arrest in Crim. Case no. 2012-193 pending before RTC br. 38, Cagayan de Oro City.

REWARD awaiting to those who can lead to his arrest.

You may contact 0917-7235503; 0917-3164896; 0917-6325332

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Social Welfare and Development
Batasan Complex, Constitution Hills, Quezon City
Telephone Nos. 951-7119 to 21 local 401 or 402
Website: www.dswd.gov.ph
e-mail: [illegible]

INVITATION TO BID

PROCUREMENT OF SERVICE PROVIDER FOR THE ENROLLMENT AND ISSUANCE OF IDENTIFICATION CARDS TO HEADS OF HOUSEHOLDS LIVING BELOW THE POVERTY THRESHOLDS
(ITB No. – DSWD-SB-[illegible])
(NSPR Nos. [illegible])

1. The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), through the Social Welfare and Development National Project Funds – Disbursement of the Philippines (SWP), intends to apply the sum of Three Hundred Fourteen Million Five Hundred Two Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (PhP 314,502,500.00) being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to payments under the contract for the Service Provider for the Enrollment and Issuance of Identification Cards to Heads of Households Living Below the Poverty Threshold. Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at bid opening.
2. The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) now invites bids for the Procurement of Service Provider for the Enrollment and Issuance of Identification Cards to Heads of Households Living Below the Poverty Threshold. Delivery of the Goods and Services is required within eight (8) working months from the commencement date. Bidders should have completed, within five (5) years from the date of submission and receipt of bids, a contract similar to the Project. The bidder must have completed a single contract that is similar to this Project, equivalent to at least fifty percent (50%) of the ABC.
3. Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using a non-discretionary "pass/fail" criterion as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act (RA) 9184, otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act".
4. Bidding is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, partnerships, or organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to RA 5183 and subject to Commonwealth Act 138.
5. Interested bidders may obtain further information from **DSWD – Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) Secretariat** and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from Monday to Friday and 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.
6. A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested bidders on **01 to 20 July 2012** from the address and upon payment of a non-refundable fee for the Bidding Documents in the amount of Five Thousand Pesos (PhP 5,000.00).
7. It may also be downloaded free of charge from the website of the Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System (PhilGEPS) and the website of the Procuring Entity, provided that bidders shall pay the non-refundable fee for the Bidding Documents not later than the submission of their bids.
8. The **DSWD** will hold a Pre-Bid Conference on **06 July 2012 at 11:00 a.m.** at the Malacañan Conference Room, 4th Floor, DSWD Central Office, SLP Field, Constitution Hills, Quezon City which shall be open only to all interested parties who have purchased the Bidding Documents.
9. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before 01 July 2012 at 9:00 a.m. Late bids will not be accepted. All bids must be accompanied by a bid security in any of the acceptable forms and in the amount stated in ITB Clause 14.
10. Bid opening shall immediately follow after the deadline for the submission of bids on 01 July 2012 at 9:00 a.m. to be held at the Malacañan Conference Room, 4th Floor, DSWD Central Office, SLP Field, Constitution Hills. Bidders or their authorized representatives may choose to attend the opening of bids at the address below. Late bids shall not be accepted.
11. The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to declare the bidding process null and void, or to reject all bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.
12. For further information, please refer to:

THE BAC CHAIRPERSON
DSWD Bids and Awards Committee
Ground Floor, DSWD Building,
SLP Field, Constitution Hills, Quezon City
Tele Nos. (02) 951-7100
Mobile No. 0919-[illegible] Local 401 or 402
e-mail/web: bacsec@dswd.gov.ph

Atty. VILMA B. CABRERA
Assistant Secretary and
Bids and Awards Committee Chairperson

bei dti

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that **MAURILIO [illegible]** with office address at Suite 1007 Alfelor Plaza, Annapolis St., Greenhills, San Juan City, is applying for registration with the Bureau of Internal Revenue as an Exporting Enterprise of Low Cost Mass Housing Project **[illegible]** Subdivision with a capacity of 200 low cost mass housing units on a non-agrarian lands, with project site located in Brgy. Bulong-Bulangan, San Jose del Monte City, Bulacan.

Any person with valid objections of the above mentioned project may file an objection in writing, within sixty (60) days from the date of publication.

(Sgd.) **EVANGELYN M. CAGAYAN**
Director
Infrastructure and Services
Industries Department

(PNA – July 1, 2012)

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